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Howe says 'conclusive evidence' links embassy with El Al bomb attempt Syrian diplomatic staff expelled

● Britain broke off diplomatic links with Syria and gave the ambassador 14 days to leave
● Sir Geoffrey Howe told the House the allies will be asked for appropriate supporting action

● Nezar Hindawi made a victory sign after he was sentenced to 45 years in jail
● All passengers and crews on Syrian Arab flights will be searched at London airport

● MIS is believed to have bugged the Syrian Embassy and tapped its telephones (Page 4)
● The Syrian Ambassador remained impassive when he was ordered to close his embassy

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Sir Geoffrey Howe told a hushed House of Commons yesterday that Britain was severing diplomatic relations with Syria after the conviction of Arab terrorist, Nezar Hindawi, for plotting to blow up an Israeli airliner on a flight from Heathrow.

Hindawi, aged 32, a Jordanian, was sentenced to 45 years imprisonment at the Central Criminal Court for attempting what the judge called a "horrendous massacre".

The deep involvement of the Syrian authorities in the plot led to Dr Loutouf Allah Haydar, the Syrian Ambassador, being summoned to the Foreign Office after the verdict was delivered. He was told he had 14 days to close the embassy and leave the country with his 20 staff.

Rigorous controls are also being imposed on the operations of Syrian Arab Airlines and its employees, including stricter searches of crews, passengers and baggage.

The Foreign Secretary said Hindawi was guilty of a "monstrous and inhumane" crime and the way he duped his pregnant girlfriend into

carrying the bomb had aroused deep and universal repugnance.

There was "conclusive evidence" linking the terrorist with official Syrian agencies - its embassy in London and its intelligence services.

Britain's tough response to the attempted murder of the 375 people on the El Al flight, which was foiled by the vigilance of one of the Israeli

airline's security officers, was applauded in Israel.

It was disclosed that MIS has had the Syrian Embassy in Belgrave Square under surveillance for some time and has been tapping telephone lines.

The Foreign Secretary's statement, which followed a meeting of senior Cabinet ministers earlier this week, received full support from all sections of the House as MPs put aside political differences to underline the country's determination to present a united front in the fight against international terrorism.

Mr Donald Anderson, a Labour spokesman on foreign affairs said: "The Opposition enthusiastically applauds the sentence on this evil man and shares the Government's sense of outrage at the role of Syrian officials."

Mr Alan Beith, deputy lead-

er of the Liberal Party, said the case showed that the trail of blood left by Syrian-trained and sponsored terrorists led to the doors of the Syrian Embassy.

Sir Geoffrey said the Syrian claim that they dealt with Hindawi as a bona fide journalist was "frankly incredible".

It was undisputed that the terrorist travelled on an official Syrian passport under a

false name, that the Syrian Foreign Ministry twice backed his applications for visas, and that he met the Syrian Ambassador.

Britain is contacting its allies with details of the case and the measures imposed. Sir Geoffrey said they would be asked to take "appropriate supporting action".

Mr Anderson was joined by Labour backbenchers in suggesting that the Soviet Union, for long Syria's parent state, should be put to the test over its declarations of opposition to terrorism by Britain furnishing Moscow with details of the case.

Sir Geoffrey agreed that the Russians were expressing more interest in the fight against terrorism, but was "cautious" about the possibility of persuading them to curb the Syrian officials.

He said there were about 250 British nationals in Syria

and that the Syrian Government had said it will continue to take responsibility for their safety.

Asked about the threat of reprisals, given Hindawi's links with the Abu Nidal terrorist group, the Foreign Secretary said Britain would not "flinch" from taking action because of such a possibility.

Britain's decision to cut ties with Syria drew support from the allies and condemnation from the Soviet Union.

In the US the news was so well received that the State Department was silenced to allow the White House to make the first approving statement.

By far the most jubilant response came from Jerusalem, which considers Damascus under the regime of President Assad to be its most dangerous Arab adversary. The Israeli Ambassador in London praised Britain and asked for further international co-operation in countering terrorism.

The Soviet Union, which regards Syria as its main ally in the Middle East, quickly condemned the British action as a fabrication.

Most noticeable by their silence were the moderate Arab states, which have found themselves again caught between sympathies for radical Arab nations and the West.

Jordan and Egypt repeated familiar statements condemning international terrorism, but did not rebuke Syria.

Britain's European allies are expected to react approvingly.

Background, pages 4, 5
Leading article, page 17



Dr Loutouf Allah Haydar, the Syrian Ambassador, had links with terrorist

Security tightened for Arab arrivals

By Harvey Elliott, Air Correspondent

Passengers and crew on all inbound Syrian Arab flights are to be subjected to a detailed body search as part of the Government's dramatically increased security measures.

As they leave the aircraft at Heathrow they will be channelled through a checking area where they will be body searched by security men.

They will then have to identify their luggage, which will be put through an X-ray machine and subject to random detailed searches.

Normal practice at the airport is to search only out-bound passengers.

A directive from the Department of Transport was sent to the British Airports Authority at Heathrow within minutes of the sentencing of Hindawi. The new arrangements will be in force for the

scheduled arrival of the first Boeing 747 jet from Damascus this afternoon.

The Government had planned to ban all flights from Syria but this could have put at risk more than 70 British flights a week which over-fly the country.

Syrian Arab operates three flights a week from Damascus to London. The aircraft, which stays at Heathrow overnight before flying the return leg, will also be moved from its normal stand to a remote area where it can be kept under surveillance and guarded by armed police.

Libyan Arab Airlines will be banned from flying to Britain from the end of this month because of "support for terrorist activity".

No British airline flies to Syria, and British Caledonian has suspended flights to Libya.

El Al bomber sentenced to record 45 years

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

Nezar Hindawi stood expressionless at the Central Criminal Court yesterday as he was sentenced to a record 45 years for trying to use Miss Ann Murphy, his pregnant girlfriend, as a human bomb to destroy an El Al flight carrying 375 people.

Hindawi, aged 32, and regarded by police as a "first division" Middle Eastern terrorist, trained by Syria and linked to the Abu Nidal organization, was told by Mr Justice Mars-Jones that his

attempt had succeeded and that bomb had gone off, some 380 innocent civilians, men, women and children would have perished, including the woman you professed to love who was carrying your child.

Mr Justice Mars-Jones said: "We will not tolerate the activities of terrorists from other countries operating here or from this country."

"They will be tracked down and brought to justice. When that happens they can expect no mercy from our courts."

Hindawi was also given two 18 month sentences, to run concurrently with the main sentence, for possession of a gun and ammunition.

In prison Hindawi is likely to be interviewed by the security services as one of the most important terrorist captures the West has made information he has given about terrorism in France has already been passed to Paris.

The case with which Hindawi came into Britain, as a member of a Syrian air crew, has revealed weaknesses in

plan was a "callous and cruel deception" which would have led to a "horrendous massacre".

As Hindawi went down the steps of the dock, in court number one, he was seen to make a small victory sign. Later he is reported to have said, philosophically, "God is great."

His brother and cousin face terrorist allegations in West Berlin and Italy.

During the trial the court was told Hindawi had been trained by Lt Col. Haitham Said, identified by security sources as the West European organiser of Syrian-inspired terrorist activities and flown to Britain on a Syrian Arab Airlines flight as a member of the crew.

After he sent his girlfriend Miss Murphy, five months pregnant, off on an El Al flight on April 17, the Syrian national day, the bomb was discovered by airline staff.

Hindawi, by then on the run, was sent to the Syrian embassy, greeted by the Syrian ambassador and hidden by Syrian diplomats overnight.

While awaiting trial, Hindawi smuggled a message from Brixton prison calling on the Syrians to help to get his release by an exchange of prisoners.

He suggested Mrs Thatcher's visit to Israel last May would be a good time

No mitigation or antecedents were offered for Hindawi, who had waited nervously as the jury returned to court after six hours.

He was impassive as the judge told him: "If your

the way-aircrews are supervised which have been examined.

Speaking on BBC television, last evening, Miss Murphy said: "It was horrendous. A terrible strain. I was very happy that week... and for this to happen was absolutely dreadful."

She had been looking forward to her wedding in the Holy Land.

She said the discovery of the bomb was "shattering" and really terrible.

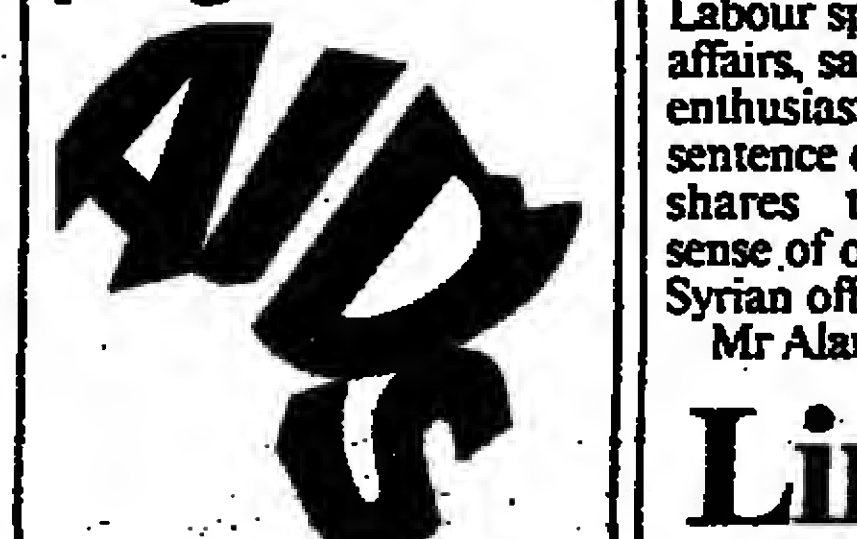
Her child would not bring back bad memories. "I love her very much. I don't think she will remind me. I will tell her all about what happened when she is old enough. I think she is entitled to know" Miss Murphy, who has been under sedation, may have to be protected from possible retribution.



Nezar Hindawi

Next week

A modern plague



This virus is evil. It shows no mercy. It attacks the young and the innocent. I don't know what we are to do.

On Monday, *The Times* begins a three-part series on how Aids is threatening millions in Africa

The City earthquake

Who's who in the City revolution: on Monday, a 16-page Big Bang special report

Portfolio Gold

There is £16,000 to be won today in the Times Portfolio Gold competition, the usual £8,000 weekly prize and £8,000 in the daily competition because no one won yesterday.

Portfolio lists, pages 20 and 25; rules and how to play, page 39.

Clocks go back

Clocks should be put back by one hour at 2 am tomorrow when summer-time ends. Clock check, page 3

Air shares

Will British Airways shares be worth buying? Today's nine-page Family Money section looks at the coming privatizations and begins on Page 27

Stock Exchange rings out the old

The London Stock Exchange bid a sad farewell to its old traditions as the last trading day before Big Bang came to a close.

More than 2,000 Stock Exchange members thronged the normally sober floor of the Throgmorton Street building armed with glasses of champagne.

"I've never seen it so crowded, it was like New Year's Eve," said one dealer. "There were several people in tears - especially among the older members. Towards the

Link 'nonsense', says envoy

By Nicholas Beeson

The Syrian Ambassador to London, Dr Loutouf Allah Haydar, remained cool and impassive yesterday when he was instructed to close his embassy and return with his staff to Damascus.

Dr Haydar, who was directly linked with the Hindawi terrorist operation, was told by Sir Patrick Wright, Permanent Under-Secretary at the Foreign Office, that Britain was severing all diplomatic ties.

Dismissing as "nonsense" the allegations made against him, the envoy claimed that the entire operation had been a joint American and Israeli intelligence plot and that "all Britain had to do was dance to the tune". His remarks were

"frankly incredible" a Foreign Office source said.

The British action means that 21 Syrian staff will return to Damascus and 19 British diplomats and ancillary staff will be recalled.

The Foreign Office move fell short of disciplining Syrian Arab Airlines because "there was no evidence to support Hindawi's allegations that they were involved".

Britain would have more to lose than Syria if it took action against the airline. British Airways flies over Syrian airspace 75 times a week, but Syrian Arab Airlines only has three weekly flights from Heathrow.

Although diplomatic ties will be completely severed, a section will be opened in a

western embassy in Damascus to look after the interests of the 250 Britons living in the country.

Syria will be allowed reciprocal privileges, probably with an Arab embassy in London. There are some 2,000 Syrians living in Britain, three quarters of them students.

The Government action was applauded by Conservative and Opposition MPs, but there is concern at the Foreign Office that Britain's influence in the Middle East will be jeopardized.

Foreign Office sources admit that President Assad is "a dangerous enemy", with considerable influence over Arab nations as the Soviet Union's main ally in the region.

Continued on page 20, col 8

Wapping attacks 'will cause death'

By David Sapsted

An attack similar to the one that killed a Welsh taxi driver during the miners' strike.

Sweeping changes in rate reforms

By Martin Fletcher, Political Reporter

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for the Environment, yesterday dismissed fears that the Government's proposed rates reforms will lead to huge increases for businesses.

The Government is proposing to take non-domestic rating out of the bands of local government after 1990 and to impose a uniform business rate (UBR).

Mr Ridley conceded that some business rates would rise, but stressed that the increases would be phased in over a number of years.

The UBR will be set by lowering existing high commercial rate levels, which tend to be in the north of the country, and raising low rate levels, found predominantly in the south, so that they conform to a national average.

The Government's own forecasts, based on this year's rate levels and a national average rate of 213 pence in the pound, suggest that commercial rates in Kensing-

ton and Chelsea would rise by 81 per cent, while Sheffield businesses would get a 40 per cent reduction.

The overall rates bills of businesses nationwide will remain roughly the same, but small businesses in currently low-rated areas fear they will be hit by swinging increases.

Mr Ridley has ignored pleas for a re-think and speaking in Sussex yesterday he denied that the impact on businesses would be traumatic.

He outlined some of the wider advantages of the uniform business rate. He claimed that by equalising rate levels it would reverse the growing trend to locate in the south rather than the north.

It would also increase local accountability by preventing left-wing councils hiding the cost of their activities from the general public by hiking the business rate, he said.

He said that after the changes businesses could be confident of rate rises no greater than the inflation rate.

Thatcher to visit Strasbourg

From Richard Owen, Brussels

Mrs Margaret Thatcher is planning to visit the European Parliament in December to report to MEPs on the EEC Summit in London at the beginning of December and "set the seal on Britain's commitment to the EEC", Euro-MPs and Parliament officials revealed yesterday.

An address to the Strasbourg Assembly by Mrs Thatcher, accompanied by Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in his capacity as President of the EEC Council of Ministers, would "bring the six-month British Presidency to a triumphant end", sources said.

The Prime Minister is said to come on the eve of the ratification by national parliaments of the Twelve, including Westminster, of the controversial Single European Act. This amends the Treaty of Rome, the EEC's founding document, and in the view of anti-market forces codifies the transfer of sovereignty to EEC institutions.

It gives the directly elected European Parliament greater powers to legislate and increases the use of majority

Continued on page 20, col 7

Are you leaving your heirs more tax than capital?

Naturally you want to leave all of your estate to your family or dependants or at least to someone of your choosing.

But the truth is that without some forward planning your heirs will receive only what is left after the Inland Revenue take their share in the form of the new Inheritance Tax when you die.

And that share can be quite dramatic. For example, on an estate of £300,000 (including house, contents, personal effects, stocks and shares, bonds, trusts, cash, life assurance and any inheritances) the Exchequer stands to be the largest beneficiary. If there were two children they would each get £99,425 but the Exchequer would take £101,150.

And it gets worse; above £57,000 the rate is a staggering 60%. At Towry Law we can help you make plans to reduce your liability and pass on your accumulated wealth to your chosen beneficiaries.

Now think for a moment. I.H.T. does not just apply to the very rich, it applies to everybody with assets above £71,000.

Think what your house and investments are worth. And then think: I must get in touch with Towry Law today.

Talk to Towry Law for impartial financial advice.

Towry Law & Co. Ltd., FREEPOST, Windsor, Berks SL4 1BT. Telephone: 0753 868244. Outside office hours 01-916 9057. Or 031-226 2241 (Edinburgh) or 0532 445911 (Leeds). Please send me your new guide to Inheritance Tax and how to avoid it. I am/am not an existing Towry Law client. Name: Address: Postcode: TT 25/10/86

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NEWS SUMMARY

'Blackout' call on defence base

The Government was accused yesterday of imposing "a total news blackout" on American plans for the Holy Loch nuclear submarine base in Scotland after the Ministry of Defence refused to confirm reports that the US Navy was seeking to expand it (Our Political Reporter writes).

Brighton Gold case reward

The reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the killer or killers of the Brighton schoolgirls Nicola Fellows and Karen Hadaway, reached £12,000 yesterday.

Blow for dry Ulster

The tottering Ulster Sabbath was dealt a further blow yesterday when the Government unveiled proposals to allow the province's 2,000 pubs to open on Sunday (Richard Ford writes).

Baker call over head

Mr Kenneth Baker (right), Secretary of State for Education and Science, yesterday urged Labour-controlled Brent council to reinstate immediately Miss Maureen McGoldrick, the headmistress suspended since July for allegedly making a racist remark.



Food additive ban

From next half-term, certain chemicals will be banned from lunches eaten by pupils in Gloucestershire schools. Experts believe the additives - including E102 (tartrazine) and E110 sunset yellow - are responsible for making youngsters hyperactive.

Carlisle to retire Solvency campaign

Mr Mark Carlisle, aged 57, the former Secretary of State for Education, last night became the 38th Tory MP to announce that he would not be standing at the next election. He stressed that he was retiring for personal reasons.

Agency claims Saatchi throne

By Jonathan Miller Media Correspondent Britain's two largest advertising agencies yesterday continued their furious battle to claim the title of the country's number one.

£40m subsidies saving 'when bus free-for-all is operational'

Savings of £40 million a year in subsidies and little change in bus services were predicted yesterday by Mr John Moore, Secretary of State for Transport, in the countdown to deregulation at midnight tonight.

The Government's move is designed to reduce the £500 million subsidy from local councils for bus services, in the wake of declining use of buses and fares rising faster than inflation.

At a Department of Transport press conference, examples were given, with savings of the new style operations where services had been largely maintained.

The figures were: Avon £1 million; Berkshire £350,000; Cheshire £650,000; Cumbria £360,000; Lancashire £3 million; West Sussex £1.25 million and Surrey £2 million.

London has not been deregulated yet, but some routes have been put out to competitive tender.

The Government has conceded that jobs in the bus industry have been lost, among them 1,900 in Greater Manchester, but all had been shed through voluntary redundancy.

Mr Malcolm Waugh, chairman of the regional council's transport committee, said that he would be recommending a cut of a third in the number of services in the city centre.

Willis in favour of ballots

It would be "unthinkable" for any new trade union laws to omit balloting for strikes and union elections, Mr Norman Willis, general secretary of the TUC, said yesterday.

Trade union members were looking increasingly to their unions "to provide progress without strikes and without pickets - quite simply with the minimum of hassle, especially self-induced hassle".

Mr Willis attacked recent changes in legislation which, he said, meant "get-outs from the law for small firms" and less individual protection.

The unions were accused constantly of having too much power, being unrepresentative of their members, dividing the nation and opposing unnecessary change.

Traders rally to defy law

London's fly-pitchers, illegal street traders who sell virtually anything from a battered suitcase perched on top of a plastic milk-crate, were out in force yesterday outside Selfridge's in Oxford Street, despite the first prison sentence imposed on a colleague.

As a High Court judge, Mr Justice Henry, issued a permanent ban on another street trader, Mr Steven Ward, aged 26, a fly-pitcher from Stepney, said that what ever Westminster City Council did "it's not going to change, it's never going to. It's a way of life in London and has been for the past 100 years or more".

The six-week sentence imposed on Thursday on Mr Ronald Jordan, an umbrella seller aged 44 from Finchley, north London, was "absolutely disgusting", Gary, a street trader aged 31 from Wandsworth, said as he walked anxiously for the police to disappear before again installing himself on the pavement with packing cases of perfume at £2 a bottle.

Mr Ward, whose application for permission to trade is shortly to be heard by the authorities, said: "I'd stop this game tomorrow if the council would only give me a proper licence".

But Westminster City Council said yesterday that "illegal trading was an unwarranted nuisance and we have had many complaints from residents".

The council was still considering an application from Mr Jordan for a licence.

In Pentonville jail, such considerations hardly bothered Mr Jordan.

"Look there's an art to this job," he said before his sentence. "It takes years to learn to appear in the right place as soon as those big black rain clouds threaten the skyline."

Lynn Reiton & Co Our report yesterday, "Solicitor in luxury suite," informed that "Mr Michael Reiton, of the Westminster firm of Lynn Reiton & Co" was helping police investigate the Brinks-Mat robbery. Mr Reiton sold his interest in Lynn Reiton & Co earlier this year and is no longer connected with the firm.

By THE TIMES SPECIALISTS Austria Sch 24 Belgium B Frs 50 Cyprus 70 Cents Denmark Dkr 10.00 Finland Fmk 200 France F 60 W Germany DM 3.50 Gibraltar Gbp 200 Hong Kong HK\$ 100 India Rs 100 Italy Lit 2,000 Japan Yen 100 Luxembourg Lfr 100 Netherlands Gld 100 Norway Kr 100 Singapore S\$ 100 Sweden Sfr 100 Switzerland Sfr 200 Tunisia Dn 100 USA \$1 75 Yugoslavia Dnr 100

A Thompson executive said: "Mrs Thatcher's favourite agency has been knocked off its number one position in its home market, and they always regarded themselves as invincible."

Thompson's billings for London and provincial agencies were £179.3 million, an increase of 27 per cent, according to Meal.

Saatchi's billings for the year stood at £172.5 million, an increase of 9.4 per cent.

Saatchi's, which claims to be three times larger than Thompson's when the performance of its subsidiaries world-wide is taken into account, demanded a recount, and insisted that Meal include in its figures the performance of a Saatchi subsidiary, KHHB, which has previously been counted separately.

If Thompson makes its claim stick that it has recovered the leadership position in British advertising, it would be no more than a psychological setback for Saatchi's, according to Mr Luke Johnson, a media analyst for Kleinwort Greaveson, the City broker.

Meal figures show that Britain's third largest agency, DFS Dorland, a subsidiary of Saatchi, retained its position.

Ogilvy and Mather rose from fifth to fourth place, with billings of £95.6 million, trading places with D'Arcy Masius Benton and Bowles, with £88.8 million.

Mr Leon Brittan, the former Home Secretary, being escorted through students protesting about alleged police brutality, after speaking at Birmingham University yesterday. Before leaving, Mr Brittan had told the meeting "I am happy to run whatever gauntlet the ragamuffins outside want, to come here."

Nirex list of dump sites 'within year'

At least half of Britain could be suitable for the deep burial of intermediate level radioactive waste, according to preliminary geological surveys before Nirex, the Government's nuclear waste agency.

The agency plans to have a list of possible sites for the burial of such waste drawn up by the middle of next year, a spokesman said yesterday.

Nirex has turned down an invitation from the owners of the Geevor mine because of the presence of fast-flowing water in rocks near by.

The anti-nuclear protesters' new national group, Britain Opposed to Nuclear Dumping, claims that Nirex plans to dump imported nuclear waste as soon as the disposal sites are in operation. This was denied by the agency yesterday.

Nirex contractors will start test drilling at a proposed waste dump at Killingholme, south Humberside, on Monday. Test drilling has started at three other shallow burial sites.

Stressful lives of air pilots' wives

Wives of British airline pilots see themselves as one-parent families, cut off from normal social contact and living a life far removed from the glamorous image normally associated with the world of aviation, says a new book.

Yet they are expected to support and comfort their stress-ridden husbands, some of whom have mental health problems "greater than one would expect to find in psychiatric outpatients".

The findings, which follow two years of detailed analysis of replies from hundreds of pilots and their wives, are published in *Pilots Under Stress* by Professor Cary Cooper and Dr Stephen Sloan.

They say: "Superficially a pilot and his work are seen by many people as glamorous and his wife is someone who is seen as being part of this glamorous life-style which, combined with a relatively high disposable income, is regarded as desirable. But this stereotype is not borne out."

Detailed analysis of the replies showed that 2.2 per cent of those surveyed had mental health problems, at least as bad as any in a psychiatric hospital.

Pilots Under Stress by Stephen Sloan and Cary Cooper (Routledge and Kegan Paul, £20).

Restrictions on movement of sheep to be continued

Restrictions on the movement and slaughter of more than four million sheep in Britain, imposed in the aftermath of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, now applied to less than 300,000 animals, Mr John Gummer, Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, told the Commons.

Radiation levels in sheep in upland areas had not been falling as fast as in those in lowland areas. New instruments had been developed to enable field monitoring of sheep under conditions and the Government was looking at various ways of finding action to speed up the ending of restrictions.

Early start to Liberal efforts in Knowsley

By Craig Seton David Steel the Liberal leader, yesterday fired the first shot in the Knowsley North by-election campaign which, officially, begins on Monday.

He arrived just before Labour put its new, moderate Merseyside face on display, in the form of Mr George Howarth - imposed on the local party as candidate for the November 13 by-election, by Labour's National Executive Committee, in order to block the selection of Mr Les Huckfield, who was backed by the Militant Tendency.

The Liberal candidate, Miss Rosemary Cooper, a Liverpool City councillor, is seeking to overturn a Labour majority of more than 17,000.

Mr Steel said it would be a straight fight between Labour and the Alliance.

Mr Huckfield, the Euro-MP for Merseyside East, failed in a High Court attempt on Thursday to stop the party's NEC imposing Mr Howarth as Labour's candidate.

Kidnap suspect for trial

A British businessman who is accused of being involved in a £1.5 million kidnap plan, is to stand trial in West Germany after a successful extradition action at Bow Street magistrates court yesterday.

Alan Rees, aged 35, a businessman of Beaumaris Way, Blackwood, Gwent, is charged with being concerned in the kidnap of a manager of Air Lufthansa, carried out in South America by the Bolivian Socialist Falange in November 1983.

He was also accused of handling the negotiations for ransom.

Mr Rees was arrested when he returned to the United Kingdom, and bank notes used for the ransom were found in his possession. He had been working in Bolivia for the last 10 years and had set up a company there.

Mr Clive Nicholls, for the defence, said the case was "unsatisfactory and disturbing". He said statements about Mr Rees being involved had now been retracted by the kidnapers.

Ten years for man in acid attack

A former soldier was jailed for 10 years at Bristol Crown Court yesterday after being found guilty of causing grievous bodily harm to his former lover Miss Debbie Brown, a stable girl, aged 19.

Philip Walters, aged 36, who was in the Welsh Fusiliers, and Michael Khalid, aged 20, both of Neville Street, Cardiff, denied a joint charge of causing grievous bodily harm with intent to Miss Brown, of Frome Road, Trowbridge, Wiltshire.

They also denied throwing sulphuric acid at Miss Brown with intent to disfigure her in an attack on April 22 at a stud farm at Westbury, Wiltshire, where she works.

Khalid was sentenced to three years' youth custody, after being convicted of the lesser charge of grievous bodily harm.

The court was told that Miss Brown was severely burned on her face, neck and chest and would be scarred for life.

PARLIAMENT OCTOBER 24 1986 Chernobyl fallout

Restrictions on movement of sheep to be continued

AGRICULTURE

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Mr Gummer was moving a motion that the Food Protection (Emergency Prohibitions) (England) (No 2) Order 1986 and similar motions applying to Wales and Scotland be approved. These cover the restriction of movement of sheep.

After Chernobyl, the UK had shown it had the most clearly prepared and carefully worked out and comprehensive scheme for compensation in Europe. No other country had gone to the same lengths to make sure its farmers were properly looked after.

"We believe that the totality of compensation arrangements we have now agreed upon - and we are giving priority to getting sums paid out as quickly as possible - represent a fair and balanced response to the needs of the producers."

Hailsham in talks on family courts

The Family Law Bill came in for Opposition criticism for its omissions in the Commons before being read a second time and passing in the Lords.

The Bill deals with the law relating to the abduction of children, amends the law on recognition of divorce and provides for declarations as to legitimacy.

Mr Nicholas Brown, an Opposition spokesman said that, despite disappointment over the Bill's omissions, the Opposition welcomed it.

"On illegitimacy, the Law Commission recognized that the consequences as affecting the child should be removed from the law, he said. Legislation had been promised but was not in the Bill.

It was equally disappointing that family courts were not provided in the Bill. Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Solicitor General, said that on the reform of the law on illegitimacy, those who supported action were not likely to be disappointed long.

Family courts were part of consultations being undertaken by Lord St. Leonards, the Lord Chancellor, which would be completed by the end of the month, after which representations would be considered.

FORCED DISPOSAL HIGHLY IMPORTANT PUBLIC AUCTION OF SEVERAL HUNDRED EXCEPTIONALLY FINE AND MEDIUM QUALITY, HANDMADE PERSIAN CARPETS RUGS AND RUNNERS and other from the more important weaving centres of the East. Included are many antiques, silks, kelim, nomads and other unusual items not generally to be found on the home market. This merchandise is the property of a number of principal direct importers in the UK which has been cleared from H.M. CUSTOMS & EXCISE bond, to be disposed of at nominal or no reserve for immediate cash realisation. Every item guaranteed authentic. Expert advice available at time of viewing. To be transferred from bonded warehouses and offered at the ENGLISH SPEAKING UNION DARTMOUTH HOUSE, 37 CHARLES ST., BERKELEY SQUARE, LONDON, W1 (Adjacent to Chesterfield Hotel) On Sunday 26th Oct, at 3 pm VIEWING FROM 12 NOON ON DAY OF SALE AUCTIONEERS NOTE: Owing to the urgency of realising immediate cash, these items are being offered under instructions to ensure complete disposal. BALLINGTON GRANGE LTD, 28 ROSSLYN HILL, HAMPSTEAD, NWS. Tel: 01-794 5912. Payment cash, cheque or all major credit cards.

£7 million for Africa Britain is offering the International Fund for Agricultural Development £7 million towards its African special programme, which is designed to improve self-reliance in the countries most liable to drought and famine. Mr Christopher Patten, Minister for Overseas Development, announced in the Commons. He was moving a motion to approve the IFAD (Second Replenishment) Order 1986 which authorises a British contribution of £9,226,517 to IFAD, a specialised agency of the United Nations. He said that the first year's tranche of that contribution would be released in advance to keep IFAD going as it awaited other contributions. The motion was approved.

Visitors held Eighty-seven visitors to Britain from the so-called visa countries in the Indian sub-continent and Africa were still being detained on Wednesday, Mr David Waddington, Minister of State, Home Office, said in a written reply. He said that of those detained: 56 were from Bangladesh, 17 from India, 12 from Pakistan, one from Ghana and one from Nigeria. The orders were approved.

Owner fails in test case to get refund after new car breaks down

By Michael Horsnell

A retired businessman was £1,500 out of pocket yesterday after his test case in the High Court to clarify the rights of new car buyers resulted in only partial victory.



Mr Leslie Bernstein, who won partial victory

Mr Leslie Bernstein's Japanese car had proved too inscrutable a rogue on which to base an all-embracing judgement.

Mr Bernstein bought a new £7,995 Nissan Laurel car in January last year. The vehicle had 142 miles on the clock when it seized up and came to a grinding halt on its first long run.

The owner asked for his money back but Mr Justice Roulger ruled that because he had owned it for three weeks that was a reasonable time for him to have accepted it and he could not send it back.

The judge nevertheless decided that as the car had suffered a breakdown when the camshaft seized after a tiny piece of sealant blocked the oil pipe, it was not of merchantable quality and unfit for the purpose for which it was sold.

He was entitled, therefore, to reject it under the terms of the warranty even though it was repaired at a cost to Nissan of £700 and was then "as good as new".

The car was eventually sold to another buyer for £6,000 and Mr Bernstein, of Corringway, Ealing, west London, was entitled to that money and the interest on it.

The judge also awarded him £150 damages for his "totally spoiled day" when the car broke down, and £50 for the loss of the car until a replacement was offered.

He also recovered the cost of petrol left in the car and the

taxi fare home amounting to £37.90.

Pamsons Motors, of Golders Green, north London, who were supported by Nissan, must pay the estimated £10,000 costs of the action. They sold the car to Mr Bernstein in December 1984.

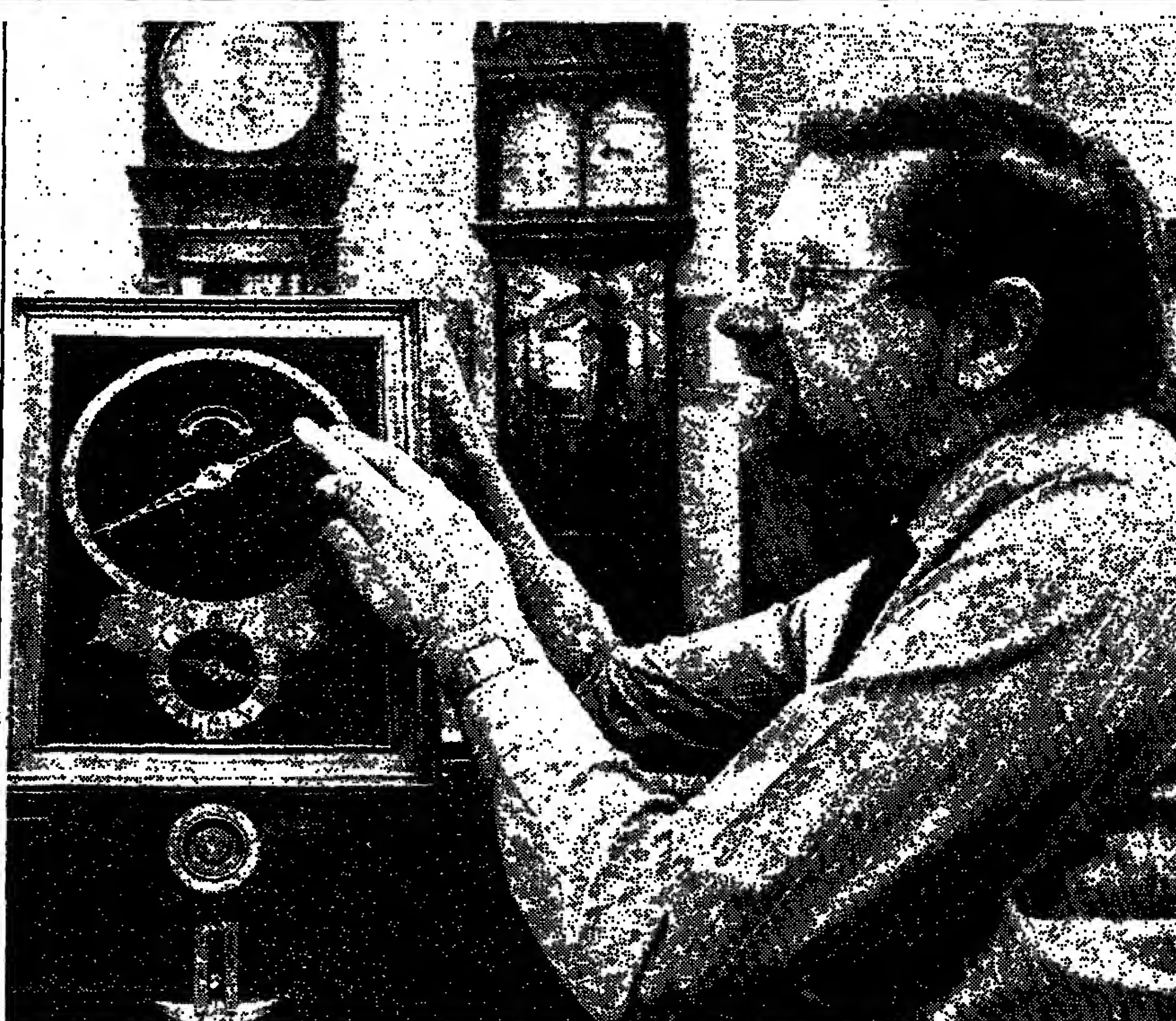
The judge had been asked to define when a car was of merchantable quality for the benefit of motorists and car dealers. But he said he must decline because it would be almost impossible to make an all-embracing definition.

He said that no system of mass production could ever be perfect and even the buyer of a new car must put up with teething troubles.

If a car could never be repaired it could not be described as merchantable.

In considering what would be a reasonable time in which Mr Bernstein could have handed the car back, the judge said what would be a reasonable time for a bicycle would not be reasonable for a nuclear submarine.

But after three weeks Mr Bernstein must have been deemed to have accepted the car and could not have his money back.



Dr Denys Vaughan, Keeper of the Clocks at the Science Museum in London, checking the mechanism of what is believed to be the earliest surviving weight-driven pendulum clock, which has been bought for the Time Measurement Gallery. The clock has a Latin inscription which reads: "invented by Ch Huygens, The Hague, made by Jan van Call in Nijmegen, AD 1657". Pendulum clocks led to a dramatic improvement in timekeeping. The first was made by Christiaan Huygens, a Dutch scientist and mathematician, on Christmas Day 1656 (Photograph: Mark Pepper).

Jury told body of man put in tomb

Kenneth Marchant killed his girl friend's husband and then dumped his body in a concrete tomb in his back garden, a jury was told yesterday.

Mr Marchant, aged 35, of Elmtree Avenue, Mangotsfield, Bristol, denies the murder of David Parnell, aged 46, last April.

Mr Colin Willis, QC, for the prosecution, told Bristol Crown Court that Mr Marchant clubbed Mr Parnell senseless, placed a plastic bag over his head, attempted to strangle him and then threw the body into a hole in his garden.

Mr Willis said: "The crown says that this was indeed a deliberate murder. Fortunately, he already had a hole dug, and had that morning obtained a lime which, in his view at any rate, would assist in the disposal of the body."

Mr Willis described how the accused began living with Mrs Sheila Parnell, a mother of three, in 1985, after she had been married to Mr Parnell, of the Oval, Bath, for eight years.

On the day of his death, Mr Parnell, a general labourer, went to Elmtree Avenue to discuss access to his three daughters, who were living with his estranged wife and Mr Marchant. There was an argument between the men.

Mr Willis said: "What in fact Kenneth Marchant did was to go into the hall to obtain a lump hammer. Mrs Parnell, standing at the sink, next heard a thump."

"She turned around to see David Parnell looking dazed and Kenneth Marchant standing behind him holding this lump hammer." Later, she heard more thumps.

Mr Marchant placed a black plastic bag over Mr Parnell's head, clubbed him again and then raised his victim's pockets before ordering his girl friend to black out the windows so that neighbours could not see.

Mr Willis alleged that Mr Parnell was dragged out by the accused and put into the grave and covered with stones and rubble. Mr Marchant then went to his mother's home where he collected lime which he sprinkled on the grave. Afterwards, the accused is said to have concreted over the grave.

Mr Marchant, his girl friend and her three children, then drove to Leicester the next day to see her relatives. But Mrs Parnell told her sister what had happened.

Mr Marchant allegedly told police that he was acting in self-defence because Mr Parnell was threatening his wife and himself.

The trial continues.

Bamber jury's 'key decisions'

The jury in the Jeremy Bamber murder trial face three crucial questions, Mr Justice Drake said yesterday.

Summing up on the seventeenth day of the trial at Chelmsford Crown Court, he said much of the evidence had been "irrelevant".

Mr Bamber denies killing five members of his family to allegedly inherit his parent's £436,000 fortune.

The judge said that the three key decisions the jury had to make were:

● Do you believe Jeremy Bamber or his girl friend Julie Mufgford, who told the police a month after the killings that Mr Bamber hired a mercenary to kill his family? She said he spent months planning "the perfect murder".

● Are you sure Mr Bamber's adopted sister Sheila Caffell, nicknamed Bambi, did not kill her family and then commit suicide?

● Did Mr Bamber receive a telephone call on the night of the killings from his father, claiming Sheila had "gone berserk with a gun"?

The judge said: "The answer to each of these can independently of each other lead you to the decision to find the defendant guilty or not guilty."

The bodies of Neville and June Bamber, both aged 61, Mrs Sheila Caffell, and her twin six-year-old sons Nicholas and Daniel were found at the family's farmhouse home at Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex, in August last year.

The prosecution alleges that Mr Bamber, aged 25, of Goldhanger, killed them with a .22 rifle and then placed the murder weapon on his sister's body to put the blame on her.

The judge said that Mr Bamber and Miss Mufgford had "flatly contradicted each other" but evidence from her had to be treated "with a great degree of caution".

He said that when an intimate relationship ended after 20 months there were "stresses and strains" which can lead to one partner doing something to try and hurt the other.

The telephone call Mr Bamber told police he had received from his father was "an essential and crucial element" in his defence, the judge said.

He warned the jury that the police's initial belief that Sheila had carried out the killings before committing suicide was wholly irrelevant.

The trial was adjourned until Monday, when the judge expects to complete his summing up.

New formula Pill good for the heart

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

The changes in the formulation of the contraceptive pill to reduce possible increased risk of breast cancer have also overcome the side-effects that could increase the risk of coronary heart disease and other cardiovascular disorders.

The benefits of using a combination of steroids, but in much lower doses, were explained to a meeting at the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, in London, yesterday.

Professor Maurice Mishkel presented the latest results from an investigation known as the Lipid Research Clinics of North America Population Study, which monitored the effect of changes in the Pill on the levels of cholesterol in thousands of women.

Professor Mishkel's clinic at McMaster University, in Canada, was one of the centres which observed the change in the proportion of the two forms of cholesterol called high density lipoprotein, HDL, and low density lipoprotein, LDL, following the new formulations of the oral contraceptive.

The low density molecule is regarded from dietary and heredity studies among heart disease patients as the hazardous variety.

Heart specialists have found a lower risk of illness when the cholesterol in blood serum contains more of the HDL molecule.

The meeting was also told of a significant switch from oral contraceptives to three-monthly injections, regarded largely as experimental in Britain, in family planning programmes elsewhere. About 25 per cent of women in a national scheme in Thailand now prefer quarterly injections to the oral pill.

● Women are having to wait up to three months to see a doctor after being told they may have cervical cancer, a gynaecologist from the British Medical Association said yesterday.

Dr Peter Hendy-Ibbs, who has prepared a report on the subject, said such delays were "most undesirable" as they caused considerable mental stress to patients.

Cervical cancer, which has tripled or even quadrupled in some areas, can be cured only if it is caught early enough. Yet it can be five months from the date of the smear test until action is taken.

Saturday, page 7

Dispute in 'cash to kill' plot

Two detectives posing as killers argued with an assassin who wanted them to murder Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the Indian Prime Minister, a court was told yesterday.

Jarajai Ranuana, aged 46, one of three Sikhs who have denied conspiracy to murder, had agreed to pay £60,000 for Mr Gandhi to be killed on a visit to Britain last October, Mr Igor Judge, QC, for the prosecution, said.

He told Birmingham Crown Court yesterday that the disagreement was because he could not produce proof that he would be able to pay after the assassination.

The meeting was secretly tape-recorded by the police. Mr Judge said that Mr Ranuana told the detectives he was "101 per cent" sure he wanted Mr Gandhi killed, but refused to show any documents or bank accounts with his name on them.

Mr Judge has said the three Sikhs were arrested shortly before Mr Gandhi arrived for his official visit. Police mounted a secret operation to penetrate the plot.

Mr Ranuana, a company director of Canon Street, Mr Sukhvinder Kijl, aged 31, a dyer, of Worthington Street, and Parmatma Marwaha, aged 44, of Kedleston Road, all Leicester, deny conspiracy to murder.

They have also denied soliciting the two police officers to murder.

Mr Ranuana has further denied possessing a revolver and bullets, and to supplying drugs.

The hearing continues on Monday.

£15m rail link

British Rail, Greater Manchester Transport Authority and Manchester Airport Board have agreed in principle to build a £15 million rail link from the city centre to the airport.

Heart death

Mr William Hopewell, aged 40, of Nottingham, had a rare heart condition when he collapsed and died during last month's half marathon in the town, an inquest was told yesterday. A verdict of natural causes was recorded.

Disease tests

All 6,000 residents of Stonehouse, Gloucestershire, will be asked to give blood and saliva samples from November 3, as part of a £50,000 programme to test for meningitis.

Magistrates' meeting Hailsham stresses training for bench

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Magistrates should undergo training and those who refuse should not expect to chair the bench, Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor, said yesterday.

He added that magistrates sitting on domestic and juvenile court panels who could not undertake the extra training he announced in April should not seek reappointment.

The Lord Chancellor was addressing the annual meeting of the Magistrates' Association in London. He emphasized the importance of training for magistrates and rebutted recent criticisms that they were untrained.

The first three-year period of compulsory training for magistrates appointed after January 1, 1980 had just been completed, he said.

"It is pleasing that many magistrates appointed prior to 1980 have appreciated the value of further training."

Action on soliciting demanded

Magistrates demanded yesterday that the Government either introduce effective sentences against soliciting or legalize prostitution.

They overwhelmingly agreed at their annual meeting that if the law could not be made an effective deterrent to soliciting, it should be "withdrawn from the penal code".

The magistrates urged the Government to consider amendments to the Street Offences Act, 1959, to provide more effective sentences.

Concern was also expressed over the recent High Court ruling that magistrates must give their names to the press. This could affect recruitment, some magistrates said.

Dr Douglas Acres, chairman of the association, "discounted that fear but agreed that other factors, such as employment, did give rise to concern about recruitment to the bench."

Credit industry urged to help debtors

By Michael Dynes

Britain's multi-billion pound credit industry is being urged to dip into its profits to help the growing ranks of debtors struggling to pay off arrears.

In a week when mortgage interest rates have begun to rise, financial experts have told *The Times* Home Front campaign: "Money lenders must take on more responsibility for the growing problem of debt arrears that their easy credit policies are creating."

Sir Gordon Borrie, director general of the Office of Fair Trading, said: "Financial institutions of all kinds are falling over themselves in their eagerness to offer credit and, indeed, to thrust credit upon us."

"Their over-enthusiasm to lend in a very competitive



market situation has already led to a considerable escalation in repayment arrears.

"Many of these debt casualties would not be there if it wasn't for the new orthodoxy of easy credit. Financial institutions have a responsibility to help tackle the problem they have largely created."

Sir Gordon is supporting a campaign by Mrs Ann Andrews, a barrister and debt counsellor at Birmingham's Money Advice Centre, to launch nationally a Housing Debtline telephone service.

ment of the Environment to run the service, but needs another £14,000 each year to maintain it. She has appealed to Britain's banks, building societies and credit companies to help out.

Mrs Andrews said: "Financial institutions as a whole spend £260 million each year on advertising - they would surely improve their image by spending a small part of that figure on assisting the agencies which pick up the casualties of easy credit."

Sir Gordon said: "There should be less ambitious rhetoric about expanding home-ownership and the potential borrower should be more wary about the steady drip of over-encouragement to borrow."

The dangers of the building societies' relaxed lending criteria have already been highlighted by the Home Front

campaign, but Sir Gordon was eager to emphasize the contribution made by other forms of credit, especially credit cards, to the increase in repossessions, mortgage arrears and other kinds of consumer debt.

He accused credit card companies of "going to absurd lengths in marketing their services".

Sir Gordon said: "Once clients fall behind in their credit card repayments, arrears on other debt repayments, particularly mortgages, quickly follow."

"Many financial institutions are becoming increasingly aware of the growing public criticism over their lax lending policies. If they fail to lay down more stringent lending criteria they may well face the prospect of government intervention."

Actually, the tale isn't so much lost as misplaced. Because everyone thinks Cutty Sark is the ship moored on the Thames at Greenwich.

But before that, it was the name of the rather wooden-faced young lady shown here.

Her career as a witch was described by Robert Burns in his epic poem Tam o'Shanter.

Destroying crops, slaughtering livestock and luring boats onto the rocks were Cutty Sark's usual pastimes. But on one particular night, she was dancing for the delectation of Old Nick himself, in Alloway Church.

When Tam saw the lights blazing within the hallowed walls, he came forward, he saw, and he was conquered by love. (Or was it lust? Clue: he dubbed her Cutty Sark, the old Scots phrase for the short skirt she was almost wearing.)

Cutty Sark discovered Tam o'Shanter spying on her. And she pursued him and his grey mare with such spirit that they came within a hair of death.

Their ost salvation lay in crossing a running stream - something no witch can do. Yet Cutty Sark still managed to pull off the horse's tail at the last instant. The famous tea-clipper launched on the Clyde in 1869 was named after the witch, in hopes of emulating her awesome speed.

And also from the legend came the ritual of placing a mare's tail on the figurehead's outstretched hand, following an especially fast passage.

You may wonder why we chose to illustrate the ship on our label, rather than the scantily clad young witch.

But that way we can be sure our Customers want us for one thing only.

CUTTY SARK THE REAL MCOY'S

السنة 1385

'Arab James Bond' linked to terror dating back to 70s

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The arrogant conceit of the terrorist Nezar Hindawi led him to believe that he would never face justice. While awaiting trial in Brixton prison in south London, he conceived a desperate plan to get his Syrian controllers to demand his freedom in exchange for Israeli prisoners.

He had a letter smuggled out to his cousin, Awni Hindawi, in Italy detailing how it could be done and recommending that the plot should be sprung while Mrs Margaret Thatcher was visiting Israel in May.

Hindawi also wanted Western hostages kidnapped in Beirut and, in one chilling sentence, told his cousin: "You are authorized to study any solution. Time is running out quickly."

Italian police intercepted the letter and arrested the cousin. Hindawi's bizarre plot was the final, forlorn, throw in a terrorist career which had taken him to Britain, West Germany, Italy, the Lebanon, Libya, Syria and Eastern Bloc countries.

The spur for Hindawi was a virulent hatred of Israel, spawned when his well-to-do family was ejected from its farm in 1948. He became a founder member of the Jordan Revolution Movement, linked by police to the Abu Nidal organization.

He boasted "the spilling of Jewish blood is legitimate and permissible until the end of the world. His group sought finance and help from Libya and Syria.

A senior Damascus intelligence officer, Haithan-Said, trained Hindawi and armed him with a false passport and the bomb which so nearly murdered his pregnant girl friend and the 374 other passengers on El Al flight 016.

When the girl friend, Miss Ann Murphy, was stopped at Heathrow, Hindawi was whisked away to the Syrian Embassy. He saw the ambassador and was then sent to a safe house despite a police hue and cry.

Hindawi was being looked after by three Syrian diplomats, but he feared that his protectors might eventually become his executioners and he fled the next day and gave himself up to the police. The diplomats have since been expelled and a fourth Syrian, suspected of being in charge of intelligence operations in Britain, fled to Damascus.

At Paddington Green station astonished officers listened to his "James Bond style" story. Although Hindawi had already been on their list of suspected terrorists, the police knew little of his activities until his arrest helped the British, West German and Italian security authorities to uncover a network linking the Red Brigades, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine,

Libya, Syria and even the IRA. They discovered Syrian links with the attack on Rome airport and the bombing of an Arab newspaper in Paris in 1982.

Hindawi's brother, Ahmed Hasi, and another man, are being held in West Berlin linked to the bombing of a German Arab cultural organization which Nezar Hindawi is believed to have inspired before coming to London for the attack on Flight 016.

Mr Hasi is also suspected of taking part in the bombing of the Le Belle discotheque in West Berlin, which was instrumental in launching the American air attack on Libya.

The arrests and the expulsions are the final chapter in the history of a group called the Jordanian Revolutionary Movement or the Jordanian Revolutionary Movement for National Salvation founded by Nezar Hindawi in, he said, opposition to the King Hussein regime.

But the Israelis believe Hindawi was a disaffected member of Yasser Arafat's PLO who decided on action not diplomacy.

Police describe him as a "first division" terrorist suspected of involvement in terrorism going back to the 1970s.

In July last year Hindawi and members of his group went secretly to Libya to talk to the Gaddafi regime about finance and help. The Libyans either suggested they should try Syria or actually recommended them. The Italian intelligence authorities believe that both the Libyans and the Syrians eventually came to use the group of Jordanians.

In January this year Hindawi was in Damascus where he met a group of senior Syrian intelligence officers.

Their leader was a man described by Hindawi as Brigadier General Mohammed al-Khoury, who he said was head of military intelligence. He was introduced to Brigadier Okurah and Lieutenant Colonel Haithan-Said, the head and deputy head of Syrian Air Force intelligence.

With slight differences in the spellings of the names the three men exist and do hold the functions described by Hindawi.

In February the Syrians decided on the El Al attack. Haithan-Said arranged for Hindawi to be issued with a special government passport. He travelled with an accountant with the Syrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs working as a controller in the finance department.

Hindawi flew to London on what he described as a practice run working with a Sheffield student living on a Syrian Government scholarship who, Hindawi said, had access to explosives and a Syrian intelligence officer called Hassan Sharif.

In March, according to Hindawi's cousin, there was training with the Syrians. After the training Hindawi went to West Berlin. He and his brother visited the German-Arab Society and Hindawi asked the organizers why they were not more active fighting Israel.

According to his brother the Syrian Embassy in East Berlin provided a carton of plastic explosives smuggled over on the connecting autobahn and hidden until it was needed.

Seven days later Hindawi reappeared in London. He stayed the first night in the Royal Garden Hotel, Kensington, posing as an airline steward from the Syrian flight on which he arrived. There was little check on the crew.

The next day the bomb was delivered to him by a man posing as another crew member.

When the bomb was discovered Scotland Yard issued a picture of Hindawi, believed to have been sent from Italy. Hindawi's cousin is understood to have been watched by Italian intelligence after his telephone number was found during the arrest of terrorists linked to a Lebanese group sharing responsibility with the Red Brigade for the death of an American general. Hindawi was trapped.

The Jordanian businessman who was also arrested is alleged to be an arms dealer. He has said he saw Nezar in London shortly before the El Al bomb was planted but claims he was working with Italian intelligence.

The Italian police may have known of his trip, providing the tip which placed Hindawi in London. It was not until Miss Ann Murphy tried to board an El Al anyone knew why.

Girl left holding bomb and the baby

By Our Crime Reporter

Miss Ann Murphy will never forget Nezar Hindawi. Each day her daughter Sara will be there to remind her of a chaotic love affair with the volatile Jordanian journalist. The romance ended when Miss Murphy, five months pregnant, was shown the bomb her boy friend and father of her baby, had placed in a bag for her to take on El Al flight 016.

Hindawi told Miss Murphy he had been a terrorist but had given up violence. For 18 months Hindawi, the embittered scion of a Palestine refugee family, had dallied with her and then finally betrayed her as a political sacrifice.

The affair began late in 1984 when Miss Murphy, a Catholic aged nearly 30, came to London from Dublin as a chambermaid at the London Hilton. One of nine children she had left school at 14 and worked in a factory.

Refugee boy who grew up to love the high life

She and a friend, Miss Theresa Leonard, lived in Earls Court where many flats and small hotels are used by a stream of peripatetic Arab visitors.

Miss Leonard met a Jordanian who shared a flat with Hindawi. Hindawi was much travelled, arrogant, flamboyant and a man who in his own words enjoyed "the high life".

In the upheavals of the creation of Israel in 1948 the Hindawifamily were forced to flee from a prosperous farm of orange groves in the district of Bet She'an. They crossed the Jordan to settle in the village of Baqura. They could look across the river to the guns covering the border and the lands they had once owned.

In 1967 during the first Arab-Israeli war Hindawi's village is said to have been attacked by the Israelis and the family home razed. The young Hindawi was storing a smouldering anger against the Israelis and the Jews.

Hindawi came to Britain in 1980, apparently to learn English and work as a journalist although he was less than successful.

He worked as a messenger for the Al-Arab newspaper in 1982 but was dismissed after a month for temper tantrums.

He met Miss Murphy in 1984 and she fell in love with the charming Jordanian and believed he had fallen for her as well.

Two months later he vanished. Miss Murphy was pregnant but the only contact was a postcard from Rome.

The Irish woman miscarried and the unborn Hindawi daughter, Natasha, in 1982. She settled in the village of Radzyn Podlaski close to the Soviet border where Hindawi visited her two or three times a year.

Hindawi told Miss Murphy he was separated and getting divorced. He suggested a holiday in Israel and the possibility of marriage. Miss Murphy was apparently unaware of the difficulties which might face a Jordanian trying to travel to Israel, let alone get married there.

Despite pledges of love, there was little romancing.

Hindawi gave Miss Murphy £100 to buy new clothes and bought the ticket for £199. Miss Murphy, believing she was to meet his mother, went out and found an ornament to take as a gift. Despite Hindawi's pledges of love there was still little romancing.



The bag that hid the bomb, the calculator that would set it off in mid-air and the pistol passport belonging to Nezar Hindawi in his attempt to blow up the El Al jet.



Cast of characters in a case of terrorism (from top left): George Habash, the Palestine leader Israelis thought they were hijacking; President Assad of Syria; and Mr Farouk al-Shara, the Syrian Foreign Minister. Miss Ann Murphy, the human time bomb, Mr Ahmed Hasi, Nezar Hindawi's brother, and Ahmed Jibril, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine.

In April he appeared at her flat saying he wanted to marry her. There was talk of going to Ireland to meet her parents at Sallinoggin Park, Dun Laoghaire, Co Dublin, and marriage in a Catholic church.

In fact he already had a wife called Barbara, the daughter of a Polish farmer, who he met while they were both attending a Kensington language school in 1980.

Mrs Hindawi returned home permanently with her daughter Natasha in 1982. She settled in the village of Radzyn Podlaski close to the Soviet border where Hindawi visited her two or three times a year.

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It was all, he said, to be a surprise. He got angry when she said she had told her sister about the trip.

The night before the flight he appeared at her flat with a new travel bag and considerably packed it for her with the new dresses she had bought.

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How MI5 bugged embassy for years

By Michael Evans

Whitehall Communications. Evidence of official complicity in the Beirut bomb plot may have been collected by the Secret Service, MI5. The Syrian Embassy in Belgrave Square is believed to have been bugged with bugging and telephone tapping devices.

It had been a focus of interest for both MI5 and Special Branch because of the suspected involvement of the Syrian intelligence service in an international network of terrorist organisations.

The Syrians must have been suspicious that their embassy was being watched and precautions would have been taken to avoid increasing telephone calls to Damascus and unwise conversations from the embassy.

Modern electronic eavesdropping devices mean that conversations can be monitored from a way and only the normal cable telephones have to be tapped. The electronic lines beamed up to a satellite are all intercepted by GCHQ, the eavesdropping communications centre in Cheltenham.

Even electric typewriters cannot escape the MI5 netters because each letter has a different electronic pitch and can be analysed.

Diplomats in embassies most vulnerable to MI5 bugging know they must avoid using unscrubbed phone lines or sending cables if they want to pass secret messages.

But all diplomats occasionally have to make a judgement about the risks. If they want a quick answer from their government back home, sometimes they have to make a call.

The bugging and telephone tapping of the Syrian embassy had been going on intermittently for more than two years, according to one security source. Officially a warrant for tapping is issued to MI5 when there is a "strong" suspicion of terrorism or espionage activity that is likely to injure the national interest.

According to intelligence sources, Dr Louf al-Fayez, the Syrian ambassador, took a great risk when he telephoned Damascus to get instructions over what to do with Hindawi.

That call was critical in many ways: first it implied an official Syrian involvement in the plot, providing a link not just with intelligence agents inside the embassy but with the ambassador himself and therefore with the government of President Assad.

Second, it placed the British Government in an appalling dilemma. A decision to take a strong stand against the terrorist activities of Libya was one thing. Diplomatic relations had been cut off and the Libyan leader Colonel Gaddafi was not a leading figure to be reckoned with in the Middle East. But Syria, with its influential leader President Assad, had to be treated totally differently.

Of all the scenarios for British Government action poured over by the Middle East experts in the Foreign Office, the one inescapable step appeared to be the removal of the ambassador Dr Haydar, but preferably without his being expelled.

Since he had been at his post in London for more than four years, the best solution was for him to be moved to another capital and replaced by an envoy with a clean sheet.

As one diplomatic source commented: "The British Government has to take a tough line on terrorism but with Syria there is so much at stake. Apart from the threat of revenge from the likes of the Abu Nidal organization against British diplomats abroad, Syria could make sure that Britain played no further role in the Middle East peace process. That would be a blow to the Foreign Office."

"To take on President Assad, the toughest leader in the Middle East, would be very dangerous indeed. He could turn the political and economic screw on Britain that would send shivers down the spines of British industry."

"There are many reports that Syria, Libya and Iraq are involved in a network of terrorism but in diplomatic terms there is a different weight attached to Syria. It is the cornerstone of the Middle East."

Two diplomats and three wives were this week withdrawn from the British embassy in Beirut because of the fear of reprisal over the Hindawi case. The ambassador, Mr John Gray, is expected to return to his post in London next month.

Only four diplomats are left in the embassy, all of whom are members of the British armed forces. Mr Gray is expected to return to his post in London next month.

He suggested the authorities at the airport should be asked whether they would accept a flight from Damascus.

Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch, warned against getting involved in an orgy of self-congratulation.

The bomb in the bag had been carried through all the checks at Heathrow, which had been particularly strict recently, and had only been found by officials of El Al.

He suggested the authorities at the airport should be asked whether they would accept a flight from Damascus.

PICTURED AT VICTORIOUS EASE

in Thursday's edition of The Times, *Kingley Amis* was good enough to share the Booker Prize limelight at his home in Regent's Park with a bottle of THE MACALLAN MALT WHISKY.

There it sat attentively at his feet, in the photograph, as if in deference to the man who has earned the **SUMMA CUM LAUDE** of the literary world, and who has penned so many kind



words on the subject of its own prize-winning virtues. Long may the old devil continue to delight every judge of a good book, and to assuage his Muse with the sherry-oak-mellow refreshments of his favourite malt.

THE MACALLAN. THE MALT.

Howe tells of envoy's involvement

The following is the text of Sir Geoffrey Howe's statement to the Commons:

The House will be aware that the trial of Nezar Hindawi at the Central Criminal Court ended today. Hindawi was found guilty of attempting to place a bomb on and El Al aircraft at Heathrow on April 17 and was sentenced to 45 years imprisonment.

Hindawi has been convicted of a monstrous and inhuman crime. If he had been successful, hundreds of innocent lives would have been lost. The way in which he deceived his pregnant girl friend into carrying the bomb was particularly wicked, and has aroused deep and universal repugnance.

There is conclusive evidence of Syrian official involvement with Hindawi. The House will recall that in May, after Hindawi's arrest, the Government demanded the withdrawal of three Syrian Embassy attachés, whose diplomatic immunity the Syrian Government declined to waive, so that the police could question them.

Evidence at the trial revealed something of the part these attachés played in this affair. The Syrians claim that they dealt with Hindawi as a bona fide journalist. That claim is frankly incredible.

Evidence was produced at the trial that:

• Hindawi spent some time in hotel accommodation reserved for Syrian Arab Airlines crew;

• Hindawi spent the night after the bombing attempt in Syrian Embassy accommodation, where his hair clippings and hair dye were found.

Certain facts are

that the ambassador, members of his staff, and the Syrian authorities in Damascus, should be involved with a criminal like Hindawi.

We have therefore decided to break diplomatic relations with Syria. Dr Haydar was informed of this decision this morning and was told to close his embassy and leave the country within 14 days.

The British Embassy in Damascus will also be closed. We shall make alternative arrangements of the usual kind for the protection of British interests in Syria.

We are also tightening the security arrangements surrounding the operations in London of Syrian Arab Airlines, by imposing special controls on all Syrian Arab Airlines aircraft and crew, including stricter searches of personnel, passengers and baggage.

The House will recall that

MPs unite to applaud tough stand

Mr Donald Anderson, Opposition spokesman on foreign and Commonwealth affairs, told the Commons it was clearly unacceptable for the Syrian ambassador or his staff to remain in the Home Secretary were convinced of that country's involvement in the bomb plot.

Mr Anderson, MP for Swansea East, said his party enthusiastically applauded the sentence on "this evil man" and shared the Government's sense of outrage at the role of Syria in this case. It is unacceptable

Mr Anderson asked whether the Foreign Secretary was aware of evidence linking Mr Hindawi to the Abu Nidal group which was responsible for the Berlin discotheque bombing. If there was so, Mr Anderson said, there was some doubt on the justification for the bombing of Libya by the Americans.

Sir Geoffrey said there was no evidence implicating Syria or any country other than Libya. He added that it was right to emphasize the importance of a concerted common response to government misconduct of this sort.

last June we introduced a tougher and stricter visa regime for Syrians wishing to enter the United Kingdom. We shall maintain and strengthen this regime.

We are taking urgent steps to inform our European partners, and other friendly governments, about the details of the case and the measures we are taking. We are impressing on them the wider security implications of the involvement of the Syrian authorities and are urging them to take appropriate supporting action.

We regret that these actions have been forced on us by the unacceptable behaviour of the Syrian authorities. We remain determined to play our full part with moderate Arab states in the search for peaceful settlement of the region's problems.

But we remain second to none in our determination to continue the fight to stamp out terrorism in our midst.

Mr Robert Adley, Conservative MP for Christchurch, warned against getting involved in an orgy of self-congratulation.

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THE HINDAWI CASE

The genesis of terrorism • Foreign reaction • Trade and diplomacy

Air slaughter plot points to Syria's Iron Man

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

The attempt to slaughter the 375 passengers and crew of El Al flight 016 may have had its genesis high above the Mediterranean early this year when a Libyan executive jet, on route from Tripoli to Damascus, was intercepted by Israeli jets near Cyprus and ordered to land at Tel Aviv. It was just after one o'clock on the afternoon of February 5, a date still remembered with bitterness and anger in Syria.

The Israelis said later they had believed that Dr George Habash, leader of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, was on board the aircraft, travelling back to Syria from a meeting of radical Palestinian officials in Tripoli.

But the hijacking - for that is what it was - turned out to be a monumental blunder. Habash was not on the plane; but Abdullah al-Nasr, assistant secretary-general of the Syrian Arab Ba'ath Socialist Party, effectively the most important man in the Syrian hierarchy after President Assad.

After holding the aircraft for five hours, the Israelis allowed Mr Ahmad and his eight Syrian and Lebanese companions to fly to Damascus. Syrian officials and the state-controlled newspapers immediately embarked on a chorus of threats against the Israelis; but because rhetoric is a common commodity in the Middle East, they were largely ignored.

This case was different, though. In Tripoli, Mr Ahmad Jibril, head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine General Command, whose headquarters is in Damascus, declared that passengers on American and Israeli commercial airliners could henceforth become reprisal targets.

Rereading his comments is a chilling experience. "We ask you to tell the entire

world not to board Israeli or American aircraft," he said then. "From this day on, we will not respect civilians who use them."

Major General Hikmat al-Chehbi, the Syrian chief of staff, announced: "We will answer this crime by teaching those who committed it a lesson they will not forget. We will choose the method, the time and place." The die was thus cast for those in Syria's four main intelligence services to decide the method, the time and the place.

But in any analysis of Syria's intelligence structure, care must be taken to draw a distinction between the government apparatus, the officials actually

From this day on, we will not respect any civilians who use planes

controlling the network of secret police forces and the individual denizens of these vast and ruthless bureaucracies who are engaged in their own arguments and feuds.

In other words, it is not sufficient to deride President Assad's disclaimers of Syrian involvement in hijackings or bombings. Mr Farouk al-Sharaa, the Syrian Foreign Minister, probably meant exactly what he said when he defined "terrorism" as "any act of violence directed against civilians, innocent people, against air navigation such as hijacking aircraft or ships, bombing airports or cities..." Syria is against such acts, President Assad says.

But inside the brutal organizations designed to protect the state - and its leaders - there are those who do not dwell on such definitions, who have so long inhabited the dark world of repression that supports every police state that means and ends become

confused. A mere glance at the apparatus of the Syrian Mubabarrat (intelligence) service proves this to be true.

On the outskirts of Damascus, for example, on the road to the international airport not 200 yards from the railway line to Deraa, there stands a gaunt black-painted building guarded by iron gates and four young gunmen in jeans. Few visitors to Damascus are not struck by its appearance, for each floor is wider and longer than the one beneath, creating a curious inverted-pyramid effect, and the flat roof sprouts with radio aerials.

Diplomats say that this headquarters of Syria's secret police, built by the East Germans, has even more floors beneath ground level than above. It is in these basements, according to former prisoners, that the Syrian Mubabarrat practises torture on the supposed enemies of the state.

In one room, for instance, there is reported to be a machine that forces a metal spike into a prisoner's anus; in another, a set of freezing showers in which victims are forced to stand for hours before enduring fierce beatings.

Amnesty International reported only last month that a Syrian from Hama named Mr Sulaiman Mustafa Ghaibur appeared to have been tortured to death by the security authorities in April, his broken body being returned to his family with a death certificate saying he had committed suicide. Mr Ghaibur was apparently an inmate of that strange black building on the Damascus airport road.

But this is only the headquarters of the civilian security police, an establishment run with an iron hand by Brigadier General Ali Haider, an Alawite who is regarded as one of the pillars of the Assad regime and who is deeply resentful of the rival secret service of the Syrian "special forces" headed by Colonel Rifaa' El-Assad, the president's brother.

When the president suffered his heart attack in 1983, General Haider was in constant conflict with Rifaa', who was eventually sent into virtual exile in Switzerland. Today, Colonel Rifaa' is in foreign seclusion again, commuting between Geneva and Paris, editing a magazine called *Al Tala'a*.

His security men have been downgraded, in some cases sent out of Damascus. The only ghost of their old power remains in northern Lebanon, where local pro-Syrian groups are still loyal to Rifaa'.

Infinitely more powerful is the president's own intelligence service run by Major General Mohamed El-Khoury, aged 72, a Sunni who is perhaps President Assad's most important adviser. His headquarters is in the presidential palace in Damascus, with his office adjacent to President Assad's. He is already in charge of security at the new presidential residences above Damascus and Inlatakiya. All along, General El-Khoury has remained loyal to the president, who has in return kept him out of the power struggles of the other intelligence services.

It is General El-Khoury who has been the architect of Syria's policy in Lebanon since 1976 and it is he who is credited with smashing the power of the Muslim Brotherhood fundamentalists in Syria in 1982, an act that gained him instant promotion. Using Colonel Rifaa's gunmen, El-Khoury effectively wiped out resistance. Residents of Hama who talk secretly of the mass executions in the last stages of the uprising there were witnesses to General El-Khoury's ruthlessness.

General El-Khoury is an air force officer - his operation is officially an air force intelligence network - and his relationship with President Assad is all the closer because the president was himself a pilot. In Lebanon, General El-

Khoury's power is exercised by Brigadier General Ghazi Kenana, a slim, highly intelligent man whose military power is circumscribed by the fact that he is not permitted to make political decisions.

Nevertheless, General Kenana's position demonstrates the contradictions within the Syrian security authorities. While Syria's enemies in Lebanon regard General Kenana with fear, many thousands of Lebanese rely on his presence for some form of order in west Beirut. Foreigners who might regard General El-Khoury's intelligence force with distaste find themselves relying upon Kenana's efficient Mubabarrat gunmen to keep the streets of west Beirut clear of kidnapers.

The Israelis have indicated that they hold General El-Khoury's department responsible for the bomb that was to be put aboard the El Al aircraft. But in Beirut the word is that they are wrong that the likely culprit lies somewhere within the military intelligence service, run by Ali Douba.

The problem with intelligence services is that they become law unto themselves

His own secret network has been responsible for producing forged passports and it has immense authority since it operates from within the military establishment. Douba's headquarters are in the Defence Ministry complex at one end of Kuwatly Street in the centre of Damascus.

Ali Douba played a prominent role in excluding Rifaa' El-Assad from political power. His Alawite background protects him from the attentions of Mohamed El-Khoury. It is with Douba's department that the more extreme Palestinian groups, including Jibril's, are expected to deal. Douba's operatives often attend

meetings of Arab radical organizations. Several of his men were present at the Tripoli meeting which Abdullah Ahmad attended in February and it was Douba's office that agreed with the Syrians last year to assist in creating forged documents for agents operating in Lebanon and travelling to Eastern Europe for "training".

The problem about all intelligence services is that they become law unto themselves. The Syrian ones are no different from others. The independent power acquired by three of the four secret police organizations in Damascus has effectively precluded outside control. Loyalty to President Assad is the quality by which they are judged. President Assad, it is reliably said in Damascus, is kept in ignorance of the exact methods employed by Douba's men.

Besides, the political arguments over Middle East violence are as familiar to the Syrians as they are to other Middle East combatants. If assisting Jibril's guerrillas is an act of "international terrorism", say the Syrians, so is America's assistance to the Contra guerrillas in Nicaragua. If it is proved that Syria is carrying weapons to extremist groups, then what about the American aircraft carrying supplies to the Contras? If Syrian hands are detected behind the attempt on the El Al plane, what about France's blame for the bombing of the Greenpeace ship? So it goes on.

The arguments, of course, avoid the reality of Syrian power politics and of superpower anger. But the chances are that those who planned the El Al bombing and who probably still work in a humdrum Damascus office off Kuwatly Street will get away with it, blamed by their own superiors more for the failure of their plans than for their involvement in them.

Mid-East alert as diplomats fear reprisals

By Staff Reporters

British diplomats and Arab leaders throughout the Middle East were last night anticipating a furious reaction from President Assad of Syria to the break-off of relations between London and Damascus after the conviction of Nezar Hindawi.

British embassies in Beirut, Damascus and Cairo were on the alert for reprisals after Sir Geoffrey Howe told the House of Commons that there was "conclusive evidence" of Syrian involvement in the attempted bombing of the El Al airliner last April.

President Assad has claimed that the Israeli intelligence service may have been behind a plot to implicate Syria in the attempted bombing.

But by early yesterday evening, neither Syrian state radio in Damascus nor the official Syrian Arab news agency had made any comment on Sir Geoffrey's statement.

The main news item on Damascus Radio was a report of Syrian attempts to bring about a ceasefire between Palestinian and Lebanese Shia militiamen in the southern Lebanese city of Tyre.

The first Arab reaction came from Cairo where Mr Boutros Ghali, the Egyptian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, said: "Egypt's position on international terrorism is well-known and has not changed. Egypt condemns international terrorism and thinks it is necessary that international rules should be laid down to combat it."

Mr Ghali stopped short of making any specific comment about Syria's alleged complicity in the bomb plot.

For several days, British diplomatic personnel have been warning British residents in Beirut that they should leave the Lebanese capital, the Muslim, western sector of which is under effective Syrian military control, if they have no pressing reasons to stay.

The Foreign Office last week reduced the staff of the embassy in East Beirut to a three-man team. No British Embassy staff have operated from their offices in west Beirut for months.

President Assad's version of the bomb plot was given during an interview in Damas-

cus with *Time* magazine earlier this month. He claimed then that Israel had plotted an attempted bombing of the plane in order to implicate Syria.

"Syria has no interest-blown up an aeroplane does not cause the end of Israel", he said. "Does Syria feel proud before the world that it has downed a civilian Israeli plane? If Syria had had a hand in it, the accused would not be facing trial in a British court."

The Syrian leader said that Hindawi had been granted a Syrian passport after the authorities in Amman had refused to renew his Jordanian passport.

This was "an ordinary matter that happens often in Arab countries."

Israel

Mr Yehuda Avner, the Israeli Ambassador in London, said yesterday that the Hindawi trial provided positive proof that the Syrian Government was involved in state-sponsored terrorism.

Mr Avner, whose predecessor, Mr Shlomo Argov, was shot by terrorists from the Abu Nidal organization in London four years ago, issued a strong statement after the conviction of Hindawi.

He said: "British justice has again manifested itself in the trial of Nezar Hindawi. Evidence revealed in court demonstrated irrefutably the direct complicity of the Syrian state in the perpetration of the horrendous and premeditated crime."

"We have long warned of Syria's active involvement in international terrorism."

In Jerusalem last night, there was considerable pride over the fact that it was during the special check in at El Al's isolated Gate 23 at Heathrow that the bomb was discovered, after it had been cleared by the airport's usual security services, using X-ray scanners.

"Mr A", as the security man who found the bomb was known at the Central Criminal Court was a member of Shin Bet, the secret counter-intelligence service.

President Chaim Herzog revealed this in July when he praised the anonymous heroes of the service who, he said, risked their life every day for the safety of the state.

The judge

A musician dedicated to freedom

Sir William Mars-Jones, the judge who yesterday handed down Britain's biggest sentence when he jailed Nezar Hindawi for 45 years, believes that trial by jury is the "last bastion of freedom".

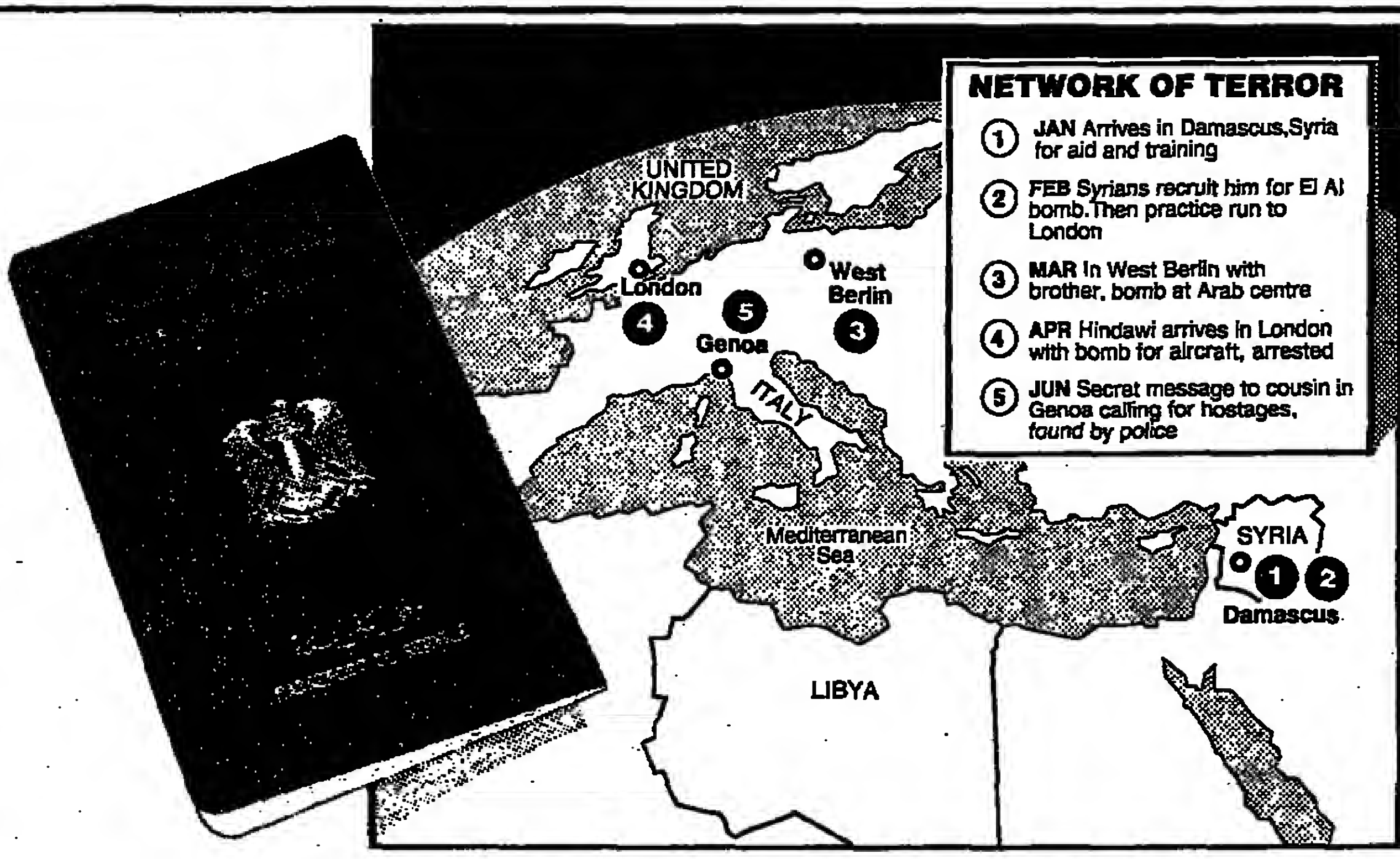
Sir William, who is 71 and has been a High Court judge since 1965, was educated at Denbigh County School, St John's College at Cambridge, and the University College of Wales, where he was President of the Central Students' Representative Council in 1936 and 1937.

He served as a member of the Royal Naval Volunteer Reserve from 1939 to 1945, after which he was made an MBE.

In 1964, he conducted the Home Office inquiry into



Mr Justice Mars-Jones, whose report changed police allegations against Metropolitan police officers.



Hindawi's movements across Europe and the Middle East in pursuit of state-backed violence.

Inter-continental travels of a working terrorist

Nezar Hindawi travelling in his own name or on a false Syrian government passport moved backwards and forwards across Europe and the Middle East. He claimed some trips were financed by journalists, but they have been linked to a trail of terrorism (Stewart Tendler writes).

At the beginning of 1985 he

was in Cairo, then Amman and after that London. From there he moved to Italy before crossing the Iron Curtain to appear in Poland, where his wife lived, then into Romania. Later he was in Bulgaria.

In July he travelled secretly to Tripoli. The trip is not included in his papers and on a

number of trips there are gaps in his passport which are not explained. He often used east and west Berlin as staging points.

His first documented connection with Syria came in January this year and a month later he had stored his Jordanian passport in West Ber-

lin while he assumed the guise of a Syrian civil servant travelling on official business.

His travels connected him with his brother living in West Berlin and his cousin in Genoa, Italy, both of whom are now linked by police to terrorism.

"The obviously invented allegations about Syria's involvement in an attempt to blow up an Israeli airliner at the London airport is being used as a pretext for this unfriendly and provocative act," Tass said.

Washington

The United States, long frustrated by the lack of conclusive proof that Syria is engaged in acts of international terrorism, is deeply satisfied by the tough, swift diplomatic reprisals taken by the British Government.

Hopes the action will encourage other allies to take a more assertive position against Syria and other countries on its list of "terrorist nations", particularly Iran and Libya.

Immediate US diplomatic policy towards Syria will not be affected since Britain's action is regarded as a strictly bilateral matter.

But the break in diplomatic relations by such a key ally is an important boost to America's resolve to take its own decisive steps against Damascus, including the possibility of severing of diplomatic relations, if it could find conclusive proof of Syrian involvement in terrorist acts against American targets.

But the US does not have the same options for military action against Syria as it had against Libya, which it bombed in April.

First, Colonel Gaddafi's regime is widely disliked in the Middle East and Libya is not a central player in the Middle East peace efforts. And it is militarily weak, unlike Syria.

Additionally, Libya is geographically and politically isolated, unlike Syria.

Moscow

The official Soviet news agency Tass said last night Britain had invented allegations about Syrian involvement in the attempted bomb attack.

Tass reported that London had broken relations with Damascus, but did not mention the conviction of a Jordanian who testified that he took refuge at the Syrian Embassy after failing to blow up an El Al Boeing 747 on April 17.

Diplomats warn of backlash by Assad

By Nicholas Beeston

Arab diplomats in London said yesterday that Syria's rivals would welcome the break of diplomatic relations between London and Damascus, but said pro-Syrian groups might avenge the decision.

Particularly at risk, they say, are the handful of Britons still living in the Muslim sector of Beirut, where a number of Syrian-backed militias operate.

Earlier this week two British diplomats and three diplomatic wives were withdrawn from the Beirut embassy, which was seen as a move by the Foreign Office to preempt the trial result.

"I think there will be a backlash," one Arab diplomat said. "Syrian President Hafez Assad will become tougher and blame the West and the media for launching a campaign against him."

But he dismissed the possibility that Britain could face a terrorist campaign similar to the string of bombing attacks in Paris last month, after the arrest by French authorities of the leader of a Lebanese terrorist group, Georges Ibrahim Abdullah.

Another source emphasized that the trial evidence left "many questions unanswered" and that Hindawi was a "pawn in a bigger game", rather than a committed professional terrorist.

In spite of evidence claiming that he was backed by senior Syrian intelligence officers and diplomats, the source argued that Hindawi was not closely affiliated to any one terrorist organization and did not have powerful connections.

Although Arab countries are not expected to react publicly to the outcome of the trial and its embarrassing effect on Damascus, diplomats agreed that both Iraq and the Palestinians loyal to Mr Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, would welcome the adverse publicity focused on Syria.

Damascus and the European bombings

By Stewart Tendler

Four times since the violent politics of the Middle East erupted on European streets the Syrians have been linked to terrorism in Britain.

Syria has been identified by Western intelligence officials as one of a group of countries practising "state terrorism", and the Hindawi trial has offered the firmest evidence to indict them.

In 1978 two Syrians were killed when a bomb destroyed their car on New Year's Eve as they parked in London's West End. Detectives believe the men died as they connected a bomb intended for the offices of Egypt's national airline.

In 1982 Mr Shlomo Argov, the Israeli ambassador in London, was shot in the head in Park Lane. Three men, two Jordanians and an Arab, who were linked to the Abu Nidal organization, then based in Damascus, were given long prison sentences.

After the hearing, the Nidal organization spoke to *The Times* from the Syrian capital and admitted the shooting, which launched Israel on its invasion of southern Lebanon.

Last year four Syrians were expelled from Britain after detectives thwarted what is thought to have been a plan to attack two leading PLO figures. Last weekend two men holding Iraqi passports were deported to Syria after being intercepted by police at the start of what was thought to be another Abu Nidal attack.

In an interview last week in *Time* magazine, President Assad of Syria said: "We challenge (Western) intelligence services to prove that Syria was behind a single terrorist operation anywhere. No terrorist acts are carried out from Syria by Syrians or by others." He said the attempted El Al bombing was the work of the Israelis.

"If we were convinced that terrorist acts could serve our cause, we could carry them out. But terrorism serves Israel's interests not ours."

During the case statements by Hindawi to the police were read out. He said he went to the embassy after the discovery of the bomb at Heathrow with an envelope to give to the ambassador and met a diplomat, identified later as Mr Zaki Oud.

When he met the ambassador Hindawi said: "He came to me and shook hands. It was a very warm greeting."

Before reading the message in the envelope the ambassador rang Damascus. According to Hindawi the ambassador told someone on the other end of the line that he had got his message.

Hindawi said the ambassador told him to change his clothes and arranged for a car to take Hindawi to a house.

Hindawi was taken from the embassy in a car driven by Mr Oud and another diplomat, Mr Mounir Mouna, described by Hindawi as a security official, to a house in West Kensington.

During his overnight stay there Mr Mouna tried to alter his appearance by cutting and dyeing his hair. In the morning Mr Mouna and an attaché called Mr Ahmed Abdul Latif came to take him away.

The three were identified by Hindawi from a photograph found in the house.

Declining trade links in a small market

By Teresa Poole, Business Correspondent

Syria's shortage of foreign exchange and the country's state-controlled economy has made it a market of limited attraction for British companies.

The high level of military and defence spending, particularly at a time of falling oil export revenues, has inevitably had an adverse effect on economic development. Delays of more than a year are common when obtaining letters of credit for trade deals and companies have faced considerable waiting periods for payment.

Syria, with a population of about 10.6 million, is not an important market for Britain. In 1985 Britain had a small positive balance of trade with Syria - British exports reached £81 million and imports were £79 million.

This year, even without diplomatic ructions, the level of activity has fallen sharply. Exports for the first eight months reached only £43 million and are expected to be

well down on 1985. Britain's most important sales to Syria are of industrial machinery and transport equipment, including power generating equipment and road vehicles, but there is also trade in textile yarn fabrics, iron and steel, and chemicals and pharmaceuticals.

Imports from Syria, mainly oil and petroleum products, fell by about 80 per cent in the same period, to £15.2 million. Britain buys some textile fibres and telecommunications goods from Syria, but these are of little significance compared with the effect of the lower oil price.

Imports of certain goods are prohibited, particularly items that are produced domestically. Opportunities for direct foreign investment are limited but a number of British companies maintain a base in Damascus. These include Imperial Chemical Industries, Beecham, Plessey, Racal, WS Atkins and Howard Humphreys.

French deny part in Bokassa return

Paris — The French Minister for Co-operation, Michel Aurillac, has said that the Government did not participate in any operation to send the former emperor, Mr Jean-Bedel Bokassa, back to the Central African Republic (Susan Macdonald writes).

His statement came after one by Mr Bokassa's eldest son, Georges Bokassa, who said here that his father's return to the Central African Republic, where he faces the death sentence for crimes committed during his time in power, was an operation mounted by persons unknown and that he had advised his father against going back.

The ex-emperor remains in prison in the Central African Republic capital, Bangui. His wife and five of his children are now back in France having been refused entry to their own country.

They were met on arrival yesterday by the French police, and it is understood that they are being questioned on how they managed to leave the country undetected.

£1.7m gold for pilot defector

Taipei (AFP) — A Taiwan Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday that a Chinese pilot who landed his MIG 19 fighter in South Korea would be welcome in Taiwan, and could receive gold worth £1.7 million.

If the Communist Chinese military pilot is proved to be a defector seeking freedom, the Government of the Republic of China welcomed him sincerely, the military spokesman said.

Taiwan offers varying amounts of gold for different types of military aircraft that Chinese pilots turn over when defecting. The pilot, identified by reliable sources in Seoul as Zheng Taizhe, aged 26, landed his Chinese Air Force MIG at an airfield south of the South Korean capital.

Mine kills 13 die in producer air crash

Mr Alan Stewart, aged 35, a producer working for the Thames Television current affairs programme *This Week*, has been killed by a landmine while on an assignment in Sudan.

He was covering a story on the famine and civil war in Southern Sudan when one of the crew vehicles was destroyed by the landmine. A cameraman, Mr Ian Killian, was taken to hospital in Nairobi badly bruised and shaken.

Thirteen Pakistanis, including three small children, died when the Pakistan International Airlines Fokker Friendship plane crashed.

Airline officials said 28 people were taken to hospital and a further 13 were almost unscathed.

Ershad reappoints his old Cabinet

Dhaka — President Ershad of Bangladesh has appointed a new Council of Ministers, retaining all the 31 members of the old Cabinet to keep continuity in government before 4½ years of martial law ends early next month, officials said (Ahmed Fazi writes).

General Ershad, elected civilian president earlier this month, administered the oath of office at the President's house to the Prime Minister, Mr Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury, three deputy prime ministers, 18 ministers, six ministers of state and three deputy ministers.

Guerrillas free two

Algiers (AFP) — Polisario guerrillas fighting against Moroccan control of the Western Sahara have turned over to French consular authorities here two Frenchmen whose light plane was shot down a week ago in the disputed territory.

The Frenchmen said their Cessna aircraft had been hit twice by machine-gun fire while flying over the Western Sahara after participating in a Paris-Dakar air race.

Five held in Chile

Santiago — The Chilean Government has announced the capture of five men it says were part of a 25-strong commando unit which attacked President Pinochet's car last month, killing five of his bodyguards (A Correspondent writes).

They were all said to be members of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front guerrilla organization.

Duke at controls

Hong Kong (Reuter) — The Duke of Edinburgh left Hong Kong for Canton yesterday at the controls of an RAF passenger jet to visit a panda reserve in the western Chinese province of Sichuan and an elephant park in Yunnan province as president of the World Wildlife Fund.

Rebels closing in on Suriname capital

Suriname's shaky military Government is under growing siege from rural-based rebels, who are waging a devastatingly effective bombing campaign against important economic targets.

According to reports reaching State Department sources here, rebels supported by Surinamese exiles in Holland have over the past three months moved beyond their stronghold in the country's eastern region, and last week ambushed an Army patrol only 30 miles south of Paramaribo, the capital.

A week earlier, guerrillas raided a state-run palm oil plantation, causing heavy damage.

Several weeks ago, rebels set fire to a border town they had besieged for 24 hours, trapping up to 500 government soldiers garrisoned there, according to guerrilla leaders quoted in Dutch newspapers at the time. The attack gave rise to renewed rumours of the possible collapse of the six-year-old left-wing regime of Lieutenant-Colonel Deyssi Bouterse.

Suriname, given to the Dutch by Britain in 1667 in exchange for Manhattan Island, gained independence in 1975.

Sergeant-Major Edward Demee, director of the state-run Suriname News Agency, said in a telephone interview

this week: "Things have been quiet here for the past few days but I can't tell you what might happen in five minutes."

The rebels are led by Mr Ronny Brunswijk, aged 25, an Army deserter who was Colonel Bouterse's bodyguard for about a year.

Government troops are on constant alert because of a series of raids on military outposts. Because the guerrillas have begun hijacking small aircraft the Government has banned all flights to the country's interior.

The Government says seven soldiers have been killed so far in the clashes, but the Dutch press puts the losses much higher.

Officials acknowledge that Mr Brunswijk has some degree of support among the ethnic group known as the "Bush Negroes," descendants of runaway slaves who settled in Suriname's interior and still maintain a lifestyle close to that of their African ancestors.

Government officials describe Mr Brunswijk as a pawn of the exile movement in Holland.

He has demonstrated a deadly efficiency as a guerrilla fighter, inflicting grave damage on an economy already devastated by falling demand for bauxite, the country's principal export.

Russians begin crash investigation

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

A large team of Soviet and Mozambican officials came to South Africa yesterday to begin a joint investigation with the South Africans into the causes of the air crash in which President Samora Machel was killed on Sunday.

In the Mozambican capital, Maputo, *Noticias*, the semi-official daily paper, for the first time put on public record suspicions that the crash, which occurred just inside South African territory, might not have been an accident. It suggested that the plane's route could have been altered by "technical interference."

In Gaborone, the Botswana Government, in its first official comment, urged that "no stone should be left unturned in an effort to discover the real truth behind the plane's crash within the border of South Africa."

The statement, broadcast by Botswana radio, spoke of the "strange coincidence" that President Machel's plane should have deviated into South African territory and that he should have met his death "in a country that obviously did not wish him well".

The main riddle which the investigators have to solve is why the Soviet-built plane, a Tupolev 134, which had passed over Zimbabwe and southern Mozambique on its way from Zambia, suddenly veered to the west as it was approaching Maputo airport, crossed into South Africa and struck a hillside.

The six-man Soviet delegation, led by Mr Ivan Dontsov, the head of the Soviet state committee for civil aviation, was met at the South African border town of Komatipoort, about 40 miles north of the crash site, by General Lothar Neudling, head of the South African police forensic unit.

Mozambique's delegation appeared to be led by Dr Fernando Vaz, the country's Deputy Minister of Health. After a preliminary conference in a local hotel, the investigators split into two groups, some going to the crash site to examine wreckage, and others visiting survivors in hospital.

One of the key witnesses is Mr Vladimir Novoselov, a Soviet airman who, the South Africans say, was the pilot of the ill-fated plane, but is recorded as the flight-engineer in the official Mozambique list of passengers and crew. School clashes: Sjabok-



Mrs Graça Machel being comforted as she clings to the coffin of her husband, President Samora Machel of Mozambique, who died when his plane crashed in South Africa last Sunday.

Lesotho project to go ahead

From Michael Hornsby Johannesburg

South Africa and the small landlocked kingdom of Lesotho yesterday signed a treaty enabling work to start on an ambitious scheme to harness Lesotho's "white gold", its abundant but under-exploited water resources, for the benefit of both countries.

"When blood flows, people suffer and die, but when water flows, we produce, live and create hope," Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, said at the signing ceremony in Maseru, Lesotho's capital.

The member of Lesotho's ruling Military Council responsible for foreign affairs, Colonel Thabae Letsie, said: "We both have realized no price is too big for good neighbourly relations, and that dialogue and negotiation are clearly demonstrating their superiority over disagreement and conflict."

Parliament uproar in Canberra

From Stephen Taylor Sydney

A parliamentary debate, combative even by the robust standards of Australian politics, brought to a premature end the current Canberra session. An adjournment was called yesterday under standing orders relating to "grave disorder."

It was the first time in 13 years that the order had been invoked, and followed prolonged uproar in which MPs exchanged insults and drowned one another's attempts to speak. After the failure of repeated attempts to restore order, Mr Leo McLeay, the Deputy Speaker, adjourned the House of Representatives for two weeks.

The furore started late on Thursday night when a Government MP attempted to raise allegations of corruption involving the Queensland Administration of Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen.

Vatican appeals for extra cash

From Peter Nichols Rome

The Vatican is about to launch a campaign to make Roman Catholics throughout the world understand Rome's serious financial difficulties.

The group of cardinals from all parts of the Catholic world, who meet annually to advise on financial matters, underlined "the urgent necessity for greater help" and proposed studies "at every level of the Church" of means for bringing more money to Rome.

The cardinals pointed out that local churches and regional episcopal conferences often had special arrangements for financing and campaigns for gathering funds, as the Holy See had to depend economically largely on voluntary offerings.

Briefly put, the Papacy's financial situation as revealed by this meeting is that the expected budget deficit for 1986 is calculated to be about \$16 million (£11.5 million) more than last year. Peter's Pence, the annual contribution made by Catholics throughout the world to the Pope, no longer covers the deficit and so capital resources have had to be dug into.

What the cardinals will certainly have done well to consider is that the disappointing result from the Peter's Pence collection is said by a number of bishops to be a result of the 1982 scandal involving the Vatican's bank which cost them \$250 million.

Kohl seeks security for Europe

From Mohsin Ali Washington

Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, has warned that new strategic systems and progress in disarmament must not lead to less security, "but to more security for our Europeans, too".

Herr Kohl returned home yesterday after talks with President Reagan in Washington on Tuesday and a major foreign policy speech to the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations on Thursday.

He has made clear in his talks with the Reagan Administration that US and Soviet proposals for radical reductions in strategic nuclear forces must take into account the superiority of Soviet conventional forces in Europe to avoid strains in NATO.

Herr Kohl emphasized that the defence of Europe is also the defence of America and said that, despite the intensified debate in the US, he did not expect American forces to be unilaterally withdrawn from Europe in the foreseeable future. "It would send the wrong signal to the other side at the wrong time," he said.

He also said arms control was not an end in itself, nor was it a panacea.

Herr Kohl said President Reagan agreed that more attention would have to be given to the conventional forces issue, and that this would be particularly necessary if drastic reductions of the nuclear potential of either side were to come about.

He said the vision of a non-nuclear world, as reflected in President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative and in the proposal by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Soviet leader, at Reykjavik, would fundamentally alter the existing alliance strategy to the detriment of Europeans if the conditions in the field of conventional weapons remained unchanged.

paper accuses Pretoria

Maputo (Reuter) — A military court took President Samora Machel's body to lie in state at Maputo city hall yesterday, and the semi-official newspaper, *Noticias*, said every Mozambican suspected that South Africa was to blame for the plane crash in which he died.

The widely-read daily paper, which generally reflects government thinking, asked in a front-page editorial: "Can anyone still have doubts about who was responsible?" It was the first public suggestion here that the plane crash just inside South Africa on Sunday night was not an accident.

Other African states have accused Pretoria of responsibility and *Noticias* commented: "Every Mozambican has the same suspicion."

Mr Machel and more than 30 others died in the crash as they were returning from a one-day trip to Zambia, where the President had talks with three other African leaders.

Pretoria has dismissed allegations that it was responsible and invited Mozambican and Soviet officials to join an investigation of the crash.

The Russian-built plane had a Soviet pilot, who was among the 10 survivors.

Among mourners who arrived yesterday was Mr Julius Nyerere, the former Tanzanian president and leader of his country's ruling party, who had been a friend of Mr Machel for more than 20 years.

Listing reasons for its suspicion of South Africa, *Noticias* said: "About two weeks ago Mr Magnus Malan, the South African Defence Minister, made direct threats against Mr Machel."

Mozambican officials have said on a number of occasions they feared Mr Machel would be assassinated.

The editorial said mysterious circumstances surrounded the crash. "It was visible on our radar. There was no breakdown on board the aircraft. The Maputo runway lights were switched on and the appropriate instructions transmitted. But the plane did not land."

"Shortly afterwards it crashed in South African territory. How was this possible? How did the plane stray so far from its route?" the paper asked.



The crash site in South Africa, near the border with Mozambique.

Parliament uproar in Canberra

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The furore started late on Thursday night when a Government MP attempted to raise allegations of corruption involving the Queensland Administration of Sir Joh Bjelke-Petersen.

With a Queensland election only a week away and Sir Joh's iron grip on the state apparently slipping, his National Party colleagues in Canberra were not keen to have these allegations aired.

Budapest dissident bookseller evicted

From Richard Bassett, Budapest

The authorities here cracked down on dissident activity less than 24 hours after the 30th anniversary of the Hungarian uprising by threatening to evict a publisher and seller of underground *szamizdat* literature from his flat.

Mr Gabor Demesky, who has run a *szamizdat* bookshop from a flat at the top of a crumbling 19th-century apartment block for the past year, was told yesterday that if he and his wife did not leave the building within 15 days "physical force" would be employed to remove them.

Mr Demesky, one of the brightest and most impressive of Hungary's intellectuals, told *The Times* he believed the fact that he had signed last weekend's joint East European dissident document on the Hungarian revolution was partly responsible for the threat of violence.

The document, which united on paper for the first time leading dissidents from all Eastern European countries, has infuriated the Hungarian authorities.

Another dissident associated with the document, Mr Jenő Nagy, was warned that the authorities could not "guarantee his personal safety" if his activities continued.

It was not clear yesterday where Mr Demesky and his wife, who has mild tuberculosis, would go.

The loss of the bookshop is a blow for other Hungarian dissidents, and although it will doubtless be re-opened by another dissident in the near future, its temporary loss will seriously impede their activities in the short term.

In contrast to this intransigent stance, the authorities showed themselves to be remarkably flexible in their interpretation of the event during Thursday evening's television broadcast on the Hungarian uprising.

Hungarians who had fought against the Russians during the uprising were interviewed for the first time since 1956.

To the surprise of many Hungarians none said anything critical about the revolution.

While the programme was being screened throughout Budapest scores of journalists listened to a number of dissidents reading poetry and writings about the 1956 revolution in a remote villa in the suburbs of the city.

California split over English as official language

From Michael Binyon Los Angeles

California, linguistic hot-house of the English-speaking world, has taken to the barricades over the use of English. In a test vote that has enormous implications for all America, the state's 26 million inhabitants will decide in two weeks time whether to designate English as California's "official language."

The issue has fiercely divided this polyglot community. Supporters of Proposition 63, as the measure on the November ballot is called, insist the move is needed to maintain unity and cohesiveness in the face of huge numbers of non-English-speaking immigrants, especially from Latin America and the Far East.

They say it would thwart moves by Latin politicians to create islands of Spanish-speaking culture in California, which could become the nucleus of a disaffected separatist movement. Quebec is the often-cited example.

Opponents of the proposition say it is a scarcely veiled racist threat to the large Spanish-speaking minority, and is a symbolic protest by

Anglos against the wave of immigrants from the south that is transforming the face and sound of southern California.

They fear the move could cut funds for bilingual education, could lend respectability to discrimination, and open the way to frivolous lawsuits, with efforts to eliminate such important multilingual services as court interpreters and emergency telephone services.

The issue is of national importance as it brings into question America's "melting pot"

theory, the linguistic unity of the United States which has been the framework for assimilating millions of non-English speakers into the mainstream.

It is also especially sensitive now that illegal immigration has become a flood, and an anti-Spanish backlash is increasingly evident in other southern states, especially Florida and Texas. A national movement called US English,

based in Washington, is campaigning for English as the official language of the United States, and its advisory board includes such respected figures as Alistair Cooke.

Supporters of the proposition claim they are only trying to prevent California becoming a Babel of separate linguistic and ethnic ghettos. They say unless new immigrants are forced to learn English they will never be able to move into the mainstream of American society.

Among the most fervent and respected supporters is the proposition's honorary chairman, Senator Sam Hayskawa, aged 80, of Japanese descent, who in 1981 introduced a similar measure in the US Senate. Citing the dangers and costs of bilingualism, he gave a warning to Latin rabble rousers, and claimed some Chicano activists want to establish a separate Spanish-speaking state in the south-western US and northern Mexico.

The measure has alienated most Spanish-speakers in California, especially those from the old families who settled

here long before the English-speakers arrived. In fact, they say, Spanish had an established right in California, as the state's original 1849 constitution was written and printed in English and Spanish. An office of state translator was established then and lasted until 1897, and an 1876 law remained on the books until 1933 calling for the printing of some legislation in Spanish.

Opponents say no such "official language" law was ever promulgated in individual states' constitutions, even in the early years when Dutch, German, Norwegian, Polish and other languages were far more widely spoken and used in churches, clubs and schools.

Spanish is the obvious target of Proposition 63. But other minority groups feel threatened — the 300,000 Koreans, the Chinese, Japanese, Armenians, Vietnamese and others from the 100 or so linguistic groups in California.

Chinese leaders recall the discrimination against Chinese in California in the last century and have pledged to fight anything similar; the large Los Angeles Armenian community compares the pro-

position to Turkish attempts to exterminate the Armenian language.

Opponents point to studies showing that 90 per cent of first generation Mexican-Americans born in the US are proficient in English, and that by the second generation the majority speak English only.

But, despite opposition from most leading Californian politicians, including Governor George Deukmejian and his challenger, Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles, polls show that 70 per cent of voters favour the move, with only 22 per cent against it.

If it passed, the two immediate targets would be bilingual education and bilingual voting ball sheets. Both, however, are to some extent mandated and protected by federal law.

The real effect is psychological, the assertion that California is part of the Anglo-Saxon culture. Many say this is essential in the long term to preserve American unity; other liberals see the danger of creating a momentum which eventually turns away all newcomers to the US who cannot speak fluent English.

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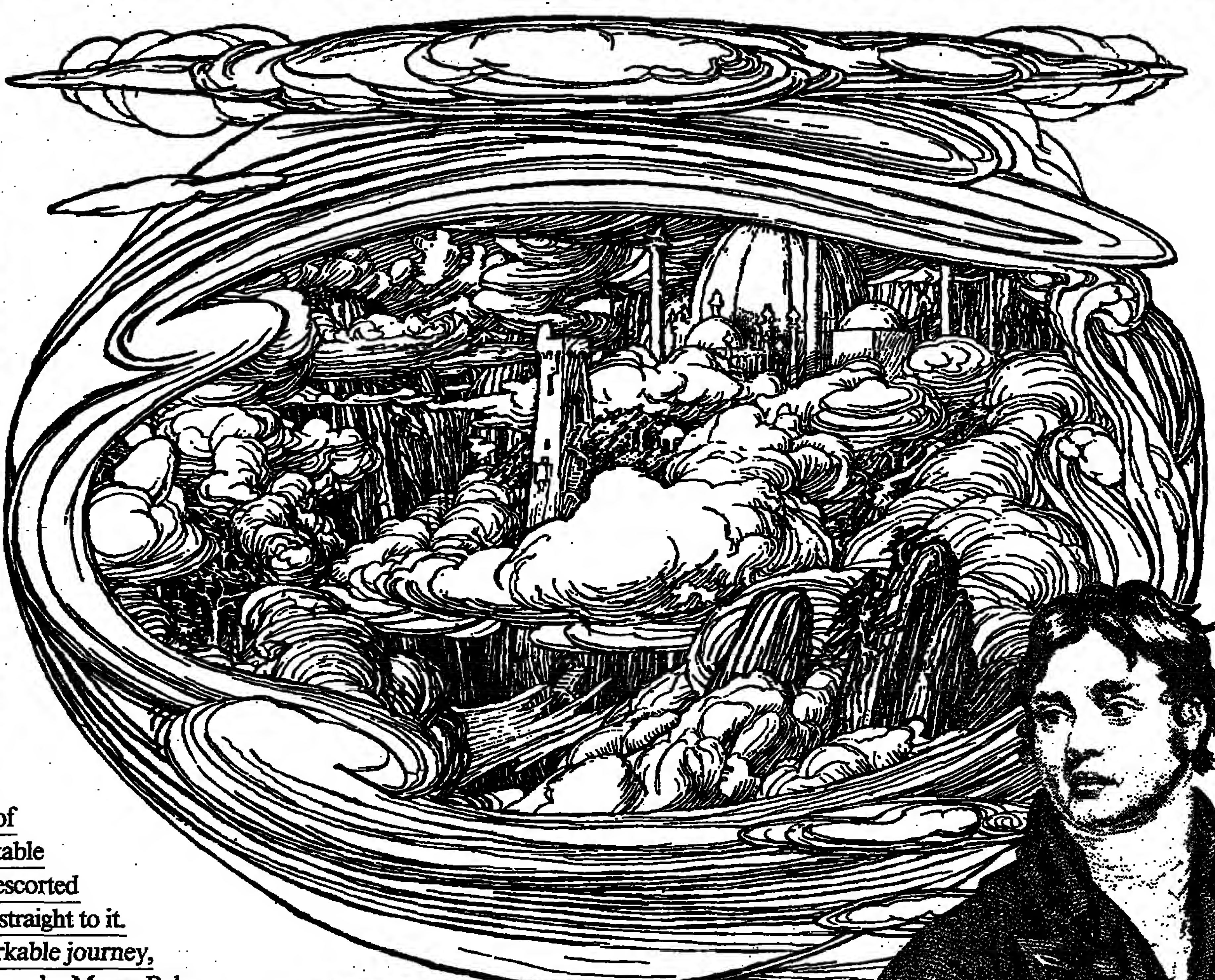
October 25 - 31, 1986

SATURDAY

A weekly guide
to leisure, entertainment
and the arts

In Xanadu did Kubla Khan

a stately
pleasure
dome decree



Hamilton-Dalrymple and Louisa Slack with pottery remains

... to which, 700 years later, travelled two resourceful young Britons, courtesy of their innocence, their colleges and a scrutable Mongolian policeman who thoughtfully escorted them away from Xanadu by taking them straight to it. Alan Franks unfolds the story of a remarkable journey, one decreed as much by Coleridge's poem as by Marco Polo

After 8,000 miles, and three months on a supposedly impossible journey through sealed borders and scorching deserts, two fresh-faced Cambridge undergraduates, straight from the pages of Evelyn Waugh, stood in the middle of a Mongolian plain with a storm raging about their ears and beheld the ruins of Xanadu, the palace that inspired one of the most famous poems in the English language - Samuel Taylor Coleridge's *Kubla Khan*.

It was the culmination of a most implausible mission, the aim of which was to follow in the footsteps of Marco Polo, who 700 years ago travelled from Jerusalem with a phial of oil from the city's Holy Sepulchre, one of the most sacred relics of Christendom, to Kubla Khan's court at Shang-tu.

For generations of anthologist readers, Xanadu has been the mythical location of Kubla Khan's palace, conjured not from historical evidence so much as from the fevered, opium-fed imagination of Coleridge five centuries later.

But the place did indeed exist, and still does - but only just, for, as the two students discovered from the local population, the ruins of Xanadu (or Shang-tu, to give it its local name) may soon be razed when the plain on which it stands, 200 miles to the north of Peking, becomes a wheat-growing area.

The two believe they may be the only English travellers to have set eyes on "Xanadu" for more than a century - ever since S.W. Bushell, physician to the British legation in Peking, recorded his sighting in 1872.

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The pedigrees of the two students seem perfect for such a venture: he, William Hamilton-Dalrymple, a 21-year-old history man in his third year at Trinity, son of Sir Hew Hamilton-Dalrymple, tenth baronet, and plainly either brilliant, or bonkers, or both; she, Louisa Slack, a 20-year-old English student from Clare, an impeccable English rose, daughter of the former headmaster of Bedales.

On the face of it, Dalrymple's desire to repeat Marco Polo's journey was somewhat greater than his wish to emulate the man. "Marco Polo is the most overrated human being in western history," he thinks. "His account of the journey is stunning in its boredom."

Xanadu represented the final challenge in an undertaking that was, to all intents and purposes, daft, and one in which they risked arrest or deportation at almost every stage, particularly during their two-week traverse of Iran.

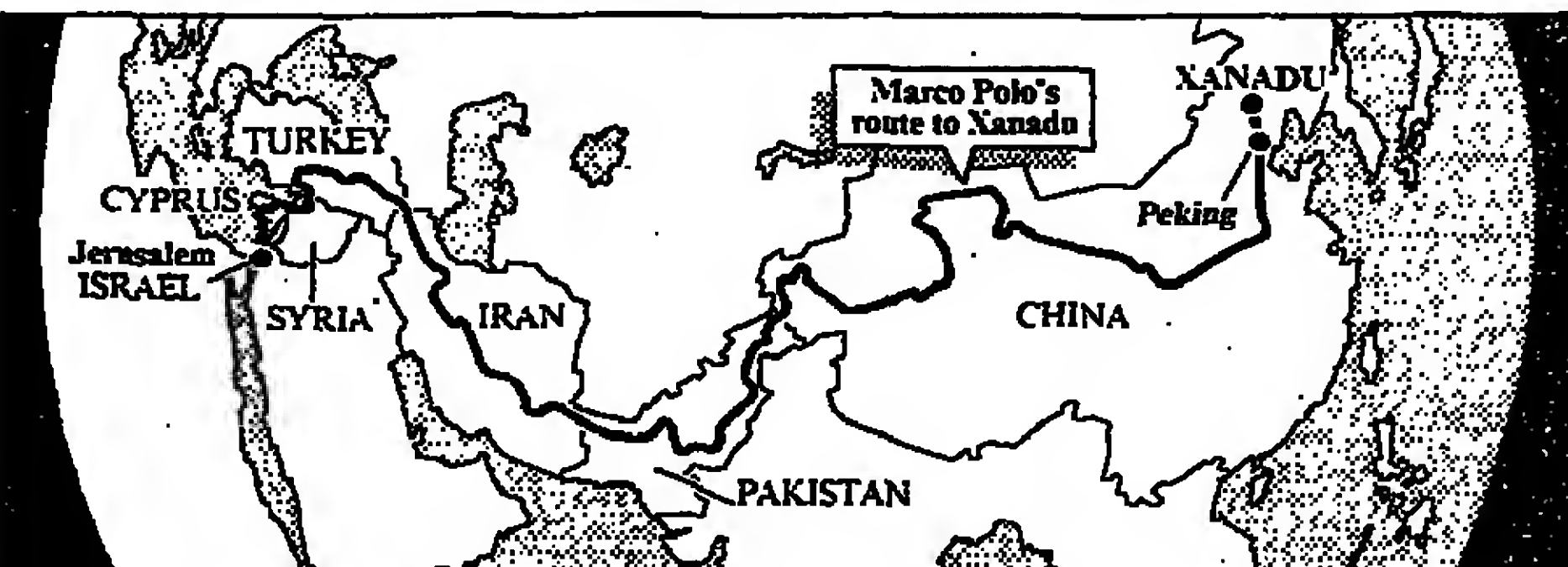
"We decided to set off on foot the following morning," says Hamilton-Dalrymple, "using the River Shang-tu [Coleridge's "Alph"] as a guide. But the hotel staff reported us, and at six in the morning the authorities came down on us. There was a knock at the door and the security guards came in."

enlisted as interpreters. The police remained adamant that Shang-tu was a closed area until, just as Willie and Louisa were about to go, one of the policemen said that in return for the equivalent of about £18 they could be escorted out of the area - by way of Shang-tu.

It was an unlikely party in the jeep which set off on the last leg of the journey that morning: two Cambridge undergraduates, two Mongolian schoolteachers, and a pair of security officers. As they travelled, hills topped by cairns appeared on the horizon. The old Mongol appellation for Shang-tu had been Chao Naiman Sumu Khotan (City of 108 Temples), and when one of the teachers wrote out that figure on a piece of paper and handed it to Dalrymple, the travellers realized they were on the threshold of their destination.

"A colossal thunderstorm was raging, says Dalrymple. "We came down over a range of hills, and suddenly, to our left, there it was - this extraordinary site of ruins. There was this huge, long rampart, 20 feet high, stretching out across the flat plain. And there was this incredible storm - driving rain, freezing cold. You could hardly have been further from the vision which Coleridge describes."

"They all thought we were mad," Louisa says. "Completely and utterly off our heads. Maybe they were right."



How Polo saw Shang-tu



There is at this place a very fine marble palace, the rooms of which are all gilt and painted with figures of men and beasts and birds, and with a variety of trees and flowers, all executed with such exquisite art that you regard them with delight and astonishment.

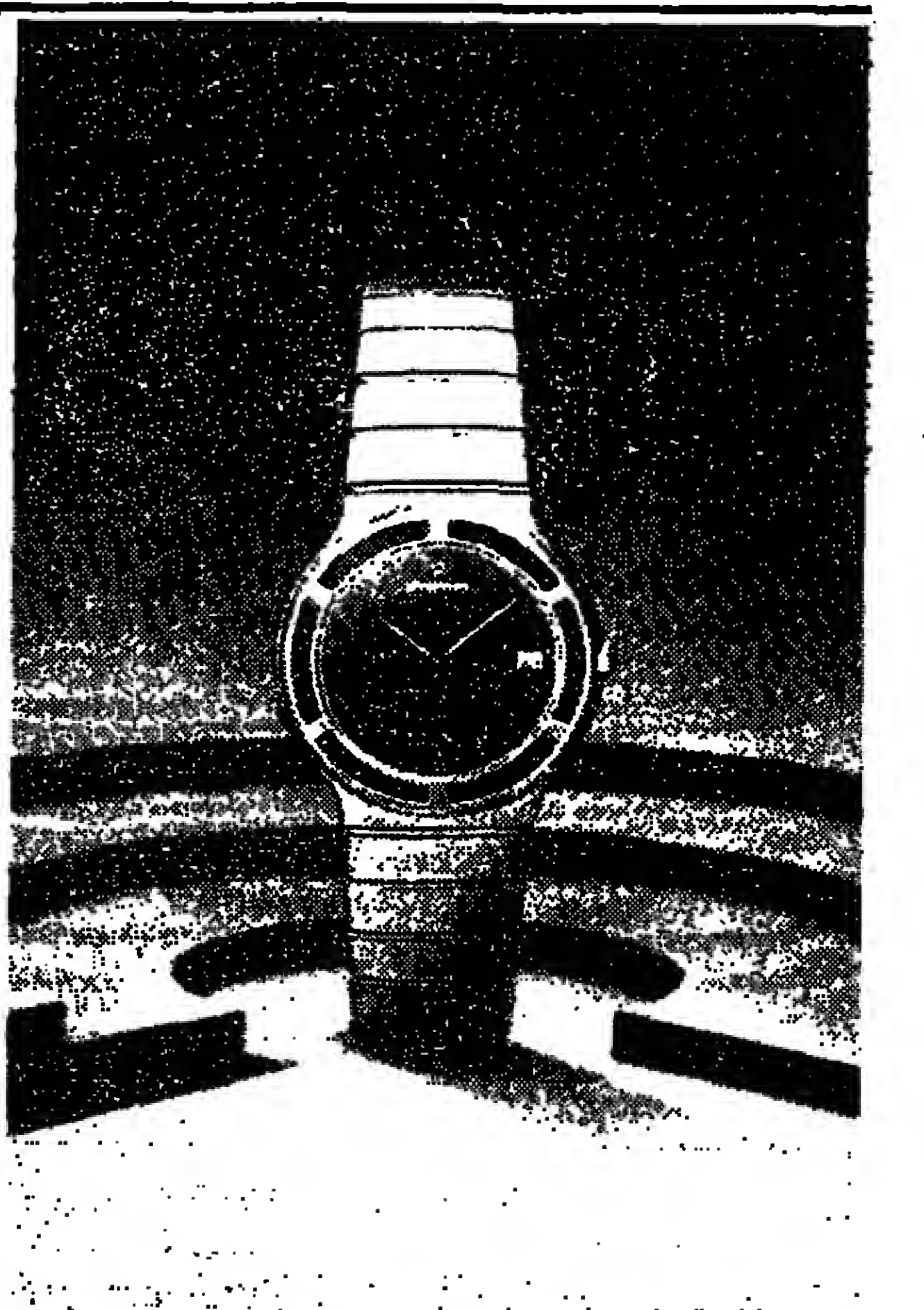
Round this palace a wall is built, enclosing a compass of 16 miles, and inside the Park there are fountains and rivers and brooks, and beautiful meadows, with all kinds of wild animals (excluding such as are of ferocious nature), which the Emperor has procured and placed there to supply food for his gervilcons and hawks. Moreover (at a spot in the Park where there is a charming wood) he has another Palace built of cane. It is gilt all over, and most elaborately finished inside. The Lord abides at this park of his, dwelling sometimes in the Marble Palace and sometimes in the Cane Palace for three months of the year, to wit, June, July and August, preferring this residence because it is by no means hot; in fact it is a very cool place. When the 28th day of August arrives, he takes his departure, and the Cane Palace is taken to pieces.

An imaginative vision of Xanadu, drawn by Gerald Metcalfe, and based on the poem by Samuel Taylor Coleridge, above

SATURDAY

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Bewitchment on the beaches

HOT SPOTS

The Seychelles are still full of magic which flourishes in unexpected places. Shona Crawford Poole watches as the islanders land their catch

The Seychelles are exactly as advertised only more so. It is not simply that coconut palms nod drunkenly over beaches of seamless sand lapped by the turquoise perfection of the Indian Ocean. This is the view at every turn, save for a few mucked-up miles of coast along the road which links the airport with the capital.

When John Profumo, the Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Colonial Office, visited the islands in October 1958, the *Manchester Guardian* reported that he returned "bubbling with discreet enthusiasm over the beauty of the Seychelles". He thought, the paper reported, that this group of "obscure islands" could be developed into "a flourishing resort for tourists". The chief obstacle then was the week-long voyage out from Mombassa, and Profumo set one of his civil servants the task of seeking out a suitable site for a flying boat base.

The airport arrived in 1971, followed by independence in 1976. The first coup, in 1977, caused a dip in the graph that charts the international exchange of hard foreign currency for a deep untan. If the political complexion of the day, its public face is artfully made-up not to scare visiting sunseekers.

And for local consumption, what little there is of the islands' history has been rewritten. Of course there is no ideological mileage in rubbing out the 18th century stuff about the first settlers on these 115 granite and coral islands adrift over 160,000 square miles of ocean, just four degrees south of the Equator. Disregarding an entirely speculative piratical past, a French expedition led by Captain Lazare Picault established the first settlement on Mahé, the largest of the islands. As a contemporary map shows, the "camp des noirs" was at the furthest end of the establishment from the commandant's garden.

French settlers followed bringing slaves from Africa, then more slaves freed from Arab dhows, were released on the islands by the British who had been awarded the Seychelles in 1814 in the territorial reshuffle set out in the Treaty of Paris.

All is well, historically speaking, until the first British Governor, Sir Bickham Sweet-Escott KCMG, took over in August 1903. In the spring of that year boaters, pith helmets, and starched collars were *de rigueur* for the unveiling of the Queen Victoria clock tower (a miniature Big Ben) in the centre of the capital, which is still called Victoria today. But no one could tell me where her statue had gone. It was not on show in the museum, nor was there any record of Sir Bickham Sweet-Escott's successors.



Palm perfection: for connoisseurs of sandy beaches and (above right) gables of corrugated tin

whose photographs once hung there. I failed to find anything adequate by way of a guide book, but the museum was full of interest. It offers a rich choice of those stoppers of inconsequential information which lodge undusted in the rag bag mind. Exhibit 50, a giant clam as big as an armchair, carries the explanation that its kind "sometimes produce a non-precious pearl as big as a golf ball". Colonial governors are out but witchcraft is in. Standing before a conglomeration of twigs, matchboxes, a broken Christ from a crucifix, a "pink formula" Steradent bottle, blue glass eye bath and foxed copy of *Pilgrim's Progress* whose status had been enhanced by a glass-fronted display case, I read: "There is no doubt that witchcraft is still extensively practised. Called gris-gris it was brought from Africa by the slaves of the early French settlers. Sorcery of many kinds, from

relatively harmless to bloody rites involving murder - has festered in isolation for more than 200 years. "Many Seychelloise," said the card, "still love to consult *bontomme-du-bois* and *sorcier*." Out in the sunshine Victoria's silhouette has changed less than most towns of its age. New buildings have not swamped the French gothic gables wrought from corrugated tin. If there are more houses than there used to be on the steep green hills shouldering into town, they are all but hidden in the thick cover of cinnamon, banana and takamaka trees.

In the market, trade in fish and vegetables and spices is in Creole as it has always been. The daily newspaper, the *Seychelles Nation*, may publish token stories in a new fangled phonetic rendering of the language that baffles the middle-aged, but young and old still go about their business and their kitchens in Creole. For connoisseurs of empty



beaches, finding the right zones is the game. On Mahé it can be played by public transport on short-wheelbase buses that hurtle round the island terrorizing pootling Mini Mokes and jeepalikes. If you could not already spot the visitors by their clothes - so much sloppier than the locals, turned out in immaculate frocks with decent necklines and neat sleeves - their frivolous open transport is a badge of holiday freedom.

Beau Vallon is the best-known and busiest beach. It has several of the large hotels and is rated spoiled by people who remember it before there was any development at all. But if the likelihood that there may be someone else within shouting distance rates as too crowded for perfection, solitude is virtually guaranteed on one of Mahé's southern beaches, or on any of the smaller islands.

Island hopping is encouraged - why not? People have to pay to move around. Praslin offers more perfect beaches, and the Vallée de Mai National Park, home of a black parrot which is heard more often than it is seen. La Digue is smaller still, and car free. Transport is by ox cart (smelly), bicycle (hot) or walking (hotter). The scheduled attractions are a copra plant, a coral of depressed-looking giant tortoises and the paradise fly-catcher. Its beaches are stupendous. Getting back to the bright lights of Victoria felt quite exciting after the torpor of the outer islands. Canned music is the only real blight, as long as flood-lighting cables running up palm trees offend no sensibilities. I listened in vain for the dances called the *sega*, *moitia* and *compta*. Even the live musicians sounded as if they had learned their trade from tapes copied so many times that the sound had been bleached of definition. Maybe that is the real Seychelloise sound.

In full flight to Ireland

FARE DEALS

Thanks to recent price cuts from British Airways, Aer Lingus and Dan Air, travellers heading for Ireland can choose some of the best value fares ever seen over the Irish Sea.

To travel with Ryanair, an independent airline, between Luton and Dublin, the fare is a flat £85 return (children travel for half price) and being free of booking restrictions, passengers can fly whenever they want. Other airlines may charge less, but their promotional fares to passengers to specific flights.

Ryanair's fares are so successful that it carried over 34,000 passengers in the first three months of flying and is to start a daily Luton to Waterford service at £109 return. Since May, fares have tumbled on the routes between London, Dublin, Cork and Shannon and Dan Air's "Latesaver" fare aimed at last minute budget travellers costs a mere £65 return. The lower fares have stimulated more people to fly as passengers defect from the ferries. Companies will become fatter during the winter when Virgin Atlantic (from Gatwick) and British Air Ferries (from Luton) launch their own Dublin flights. As new services and fares proliferate between Britain and The Netherlands, Londoners are spoilt for choice. BA, KLM and British Midland fly from Heathrow, Netherlands from Luton, Air UK from Stansted and B Cal, KLM and (from Monday) Transavia from Gatwick. However, businessmen valuing flexibility will pay up to £170 for a return Heathrow/Schiphol while leisure travellers can pay as little as £59 return for a BA/KLM Latesaver or £69 return for a BM PEX (instant purchase) excursion. When Transavia launches its Gatwick/Amsterdam service it hopes to offer half price "Business Class" fares for the man in the street of just £85 return until the end of the year.

Alex McWhirter
The author is travel editor of *Business Traveller*

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The most memorable sight of Paris had been a tart aux fraises. It had lain languorously among other such confections in the window of a pâtisserie somewhere near the Louvre...

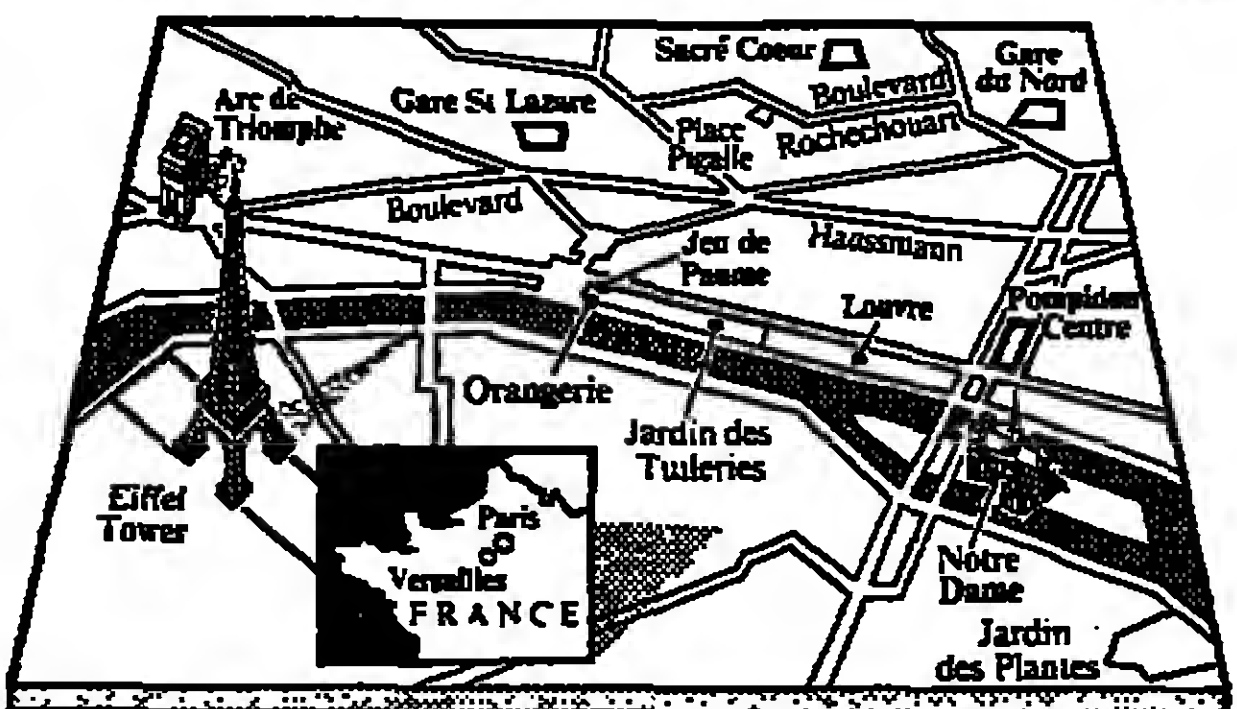


Junior jaunts: a perfect view for young eyes of tout Paris from the top of Notre Dame

Junior jaunts: a perfect view for young eyes of tout Paris from the top of Notre Dame... sitting-room and dining-room. Above all, there was a kitchen. Exploration that first evening was inevitably up the hill to the summit...

For a week's stay, sightseeing had been planned in chronological sequence beginning with the Middle Ages... This meant Notre Dame and Sainte Chapelle, to marvel at the stained glass.

The next period was the 17th and 18th centuries and Le Roi Soleil which, of course, meant Versailles. The train from Gare St Lazare was swift, the walk to the palace agreeable...



TRAVEL NOTES

Self-catering apartments in the Résidence Duffin, 10 Place Charles Duffin, 75018 Paris (1 42 57 14 55) are included, together with air or surface travel, in holidays offered by French Leave, 21 Fleet Street, London EC4. Prices for one week range from £301 for a one-bed flat with shower...

Piers of the realm

"Welcome to Eastbourne Pier" says the greeting. A nearby notice invitingly announces that "Admission to the Pier is Free". Yet another invites visitors to take a stroll ("No dogs on the Pier, if you please") and lists the attractions on which you can spend what you have saved on the admission fee.



Victorian skyline: Eastbourne Pier

Eastbourne is a good choice if you want to recapture some of the nostalgic atmosphere of the seaside piers of old, when they were an institution of the Victorian age - daring, uninhibited and totally devoted to the pursuit of pleasure.

caught seafood. There are also souvenir, craft-work and jewellery shops, and a studio which turns out dainty glass animals. The hungry can buy sausage and chips for 85p or more up-market chicken nuggets (and chips) for £1.95. At the pierhead bar there is live entertainment. There seems something incongruous about dancing a smoochy waltz or a cha-cha at 11am, but ballroom dancing at all hours of the day and night has always been part of the pier tradition. It used to be performed to the music of an orchestra, but nowadays it is more likely to be a one-man band - an electric organ producing all the instrumental sounds of a full band.

Cyril Bainbridge

The author's latest book, Pavilions on the Sea (Robert Hale, £12.95), a history of the seaside pleasure pier, was published on Thursday.

OUTINGS

DOMESDAY: There is only a week to go before the end of the spectacular exhibition in Winchester which celebrates the 900th anniversary of the Domesday Book, the historic survey of England ordered by William the Conqueror. The exhibition closes on Saturday, November 1, and will then be shipped across the Atlantic to go on display at Disneyworld in Florida.

THE TIMES FAMILY TICKET Domesday. This voucher admits two adults and two children to the 900th Anniversary of the Great Hall at the Great Hall, Winchester, Hampshire, for a total price of £3. Valid until Nov 1, 1986. Open 10am-5pm daily.

ALAN BENNETT READING: Half-term treat for children, particularly if they have never heard Bennett, a brilliant story-teller, before. He will be reading excerpts from Winnie the Pooh this morning. Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Square, London SW1 (01-730 5174). Today, 11.30am. Adult with child £1.50, without child £3, child 50p.

CHILDREN'S CONCERT: Johnny Morris narrates Tubby the Tuba and the New Symphony Orchestra plays movements from Beethoven's Fifth Symphony, Sibelius's Karelia and Lutoslawski's Little Suite. Royal Festival Hall (01-928 3191), today, 11am and 2pm. Judy Froshaug

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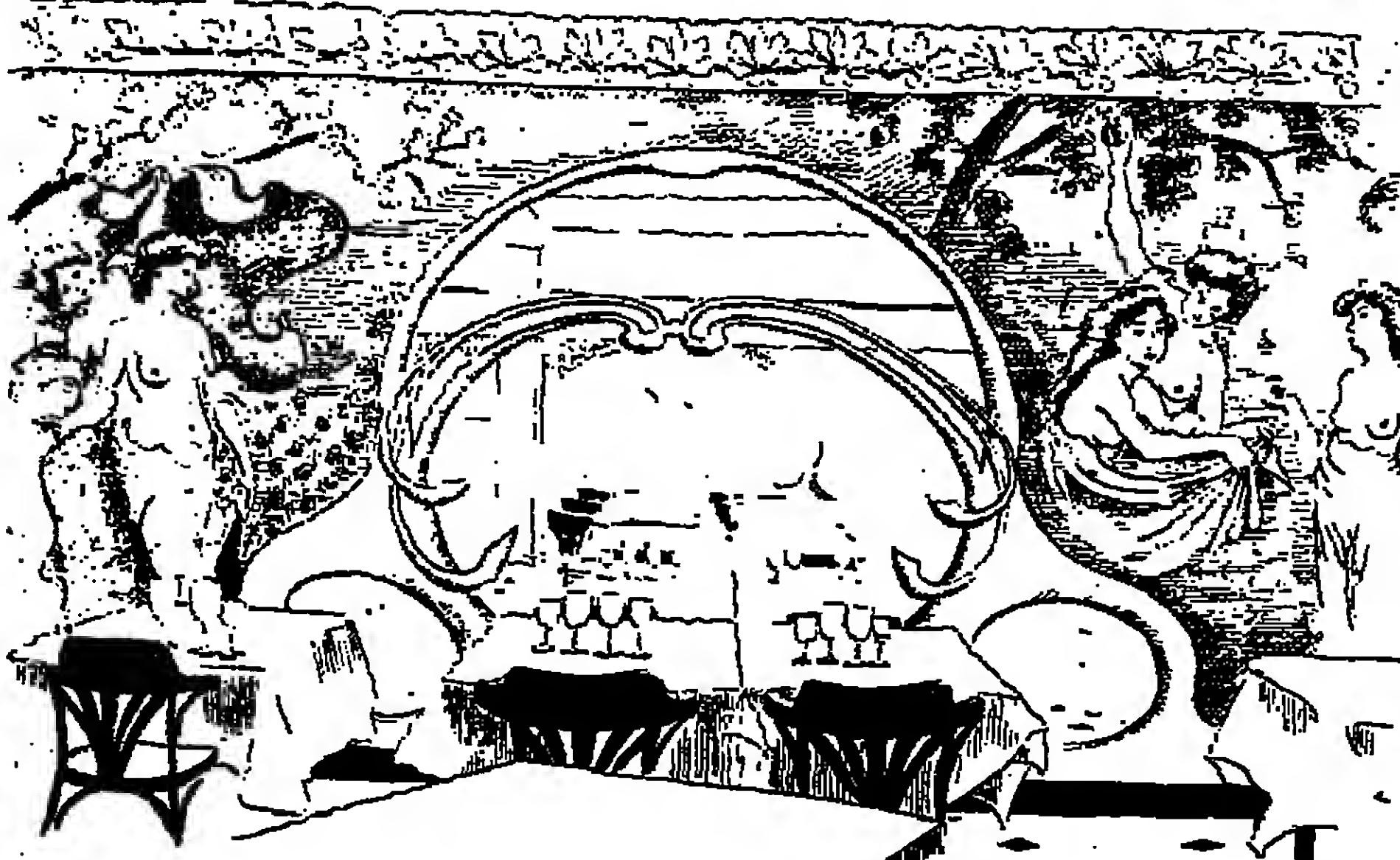
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Vertical sidebar containing various small advertisements and notices, including travel agencies and local services.

EATING OUT

Francis Mayler



The art nouveau of hi-tech style

So you thought you'd seen it all? You saw the Pub Lotus where the tables were magnesium alloy wheels and the beer pump handles were gear-shafts.

Jonathan Meades on the unconvincing hybrid spawned by a famous parent

items. I went with four people and among the dishes we ate were marinated salmon with sour cream overblissed quail's eggs with Bayonne ham; a well-received feuilleté of wild mushrooms and courgettes with a wine-based sauce; a massive bouillabaisse with a rouille that, for once, did not come out of a tin; veal chops with anchovy butter; a dreary salad of spinach and bits of bacon; duck legs with peas and a well-made sticky sauce.

It is mostly rather better than one expects of such establishments. The short wine list is not greedily priced and is quite well chosen; there is a '79 Fitou which is one of the less disgusting bevvies from the great wine lake between Montpellier and the Spanish border. We stuck to the Loire and a decent Sancerre and a Chignon as soft as cotton wool but rather more palatable. Two will pay between £35 and £50.

A few years ago Granada Television brought an action against Ford in order to prevent the car manufacturer naming its new model the Granada. The TV company lost and was ticked off by the judge for its presumption in claiming rights to the name of an Andalusian city.

Two Chinese restaurants, one in Ealing and its offshoot in Knightsbridge, are also called Maxim's. But it is difficult to distinguish Cantonese establishments from pseudo French ones and, furthermore, Maxim's is a commonplace name for restaurants in Hong Kong — it is

a phonetic representation of the Cantonese for "darling heart".

Maxim's in Knightsbridge is an oddity: it calls itself a Chinese wine bar, it is elegantly decorated, it is staffed by English waitresses and there's a jazz trio with a scat singer — a little goes a long way. At the carved serpentine bar, boorish young men stand and bark at each other.

By the standards of most Pekinese restaurants the menu is rather short and there can be little doubt that the nature of the operation is reflected in the disparity of quality between the main courses (which are run-of-the-mill) and the snack-type dishes (which are as good as you'll find). Of the latter we had a "hot basket" selection of satay (no sauce), prawn and sesame toast, spring roll, spare ribs and so on. These were fine, but deep-fried aubergine was finer.

Of the other dishes we ate, only the deep-fried prawns with garlic and ginger was top drawer stuff. The rest — flaccid Singapore noodles, overwashed shredded beef with chilli, deliciously crisp lamb with iceberg lettuce that tasted like paper, shredded pork with "seafood" — were no more than competent. We drank the house champagne which was an ideal accompaniment to the snacks but no match for the fierce flavours of chilli and ginger — tea would have been better. Two will pay about £43.

Café Maxim 32-34 Pantom Street, London SW1 (01-839 3052). Open Mon-Fri 11.30am-midnight, Sat 5.30pm-1am. Maxim's 143 Knightsbridge, London SW1 (01-225 2553). Open Mon-Sat 11.30am-3pm, 5.30-11pm; Sun noon-2pm and 7-10.30pm.

THE TIMES COOK

Steaming and savoury

Pleasing hot puddings do not need to be sweet nor made with suet. Shona Crawford Poole suggests some chunky fillings for the most warming winter meals

Diane Lees/BBC



with string and steam for about 1 1/2 hours. Using a butter- or hard margarine-based steamed pudding crust there is no reason why vegetarians need to be deprived of these unbeatably warming winter dishes. When devising fillings make sure to choose ingredients that will still have an interesting texture after long cooking. Browning the filling ingredients enriches the flavour. For stock, keep the liquid the chestnuts were cooked in and use it to deglaze the vegetable browning pan.

- Chestnut and mushroom pudding Serves four 225g (8 oz) cooked, peeled chestnuts 2 tablespoons vegetable oil 170g (6 oz) celeriac, peeled and cubed 170g (6 oz) shallots or pickling onions, peeled 110g (4 oz) button mushrooms Bouquet garni of bay, parsley, thyme and sage Salt Freshly ground black pepper For the crust 110g (4 oz) self-raising flour 1/2 teaspoon salt 110g (4 oz) chilled butter, diced 110g (4oz) fresh breadcrumbs 1 teaspoon finely grated fresh lemon zest

To reconstitute dried chestnuts, soak them in cold water to cover for four hours or more, then simmer them until tender in lightly salted water. Drain and reserve the cooking liquid.

To peel fresh chestnuts, use a sharp knife to slit the shiny brown skin on the domed surface. Lay them in a single layer, flat side down on a roasting tray. Pour in 300ml (1/2 pint) water and roast them in a preheated, moderately hot oven (200C/400F, gas mark 6) for 8 to 10 minutes. Peel the chestnuts while they are still hot, then simmer them until tender in lightly salted water. Drain and reserve the liquid.

Heat the oil in a frying pan and lightly brown the celeriac, onions and mushrooms. Set them aside and add the chestnut cooking water, made up to 600ml (1 pint) with cold water if needed. Heat, scraping up the caramelized vegetable juices, and adding the bouquet garni. Simmer for half an hour: then strain and cool.

Make and shape the crust as in the previous recipe, adding the rest with the crumbs. Toss the vegetables in the seasoned flour and fill the pudding. Add stock, cover and cook as in the previous recipe for about 2 1/2 hours. Serve with glazed carrots and brussels sprouts.

Put the bird in a pan, cover it with cold water and bring it to the boil. Discard the water, refill the pan with fresh water and bring it slowly to the boil. Skim and add the carrots, onions, celery and bouquet garni together with a teaspoonful of salt. Simmer the chicken for about 1 1/2 hours. Leave the chicken to cool a little in the stock, then remove it from the liquid and take the meat off the bones. Discard the skin and chop the meat into large chunks. Skim the fat from the stock and reduce it by fast boiling to about 750ml (1 1/4 pints). To make the butter crust sift the flour into a mixing bowl and add the salt and diced cold butter. Rub the fat lightly into the flour until the mixture resembles breadcrumbs. Stir in the fresh breadcrumbs. Sprinkle the mixture with water, mix lightly with a fork, and continue adding water

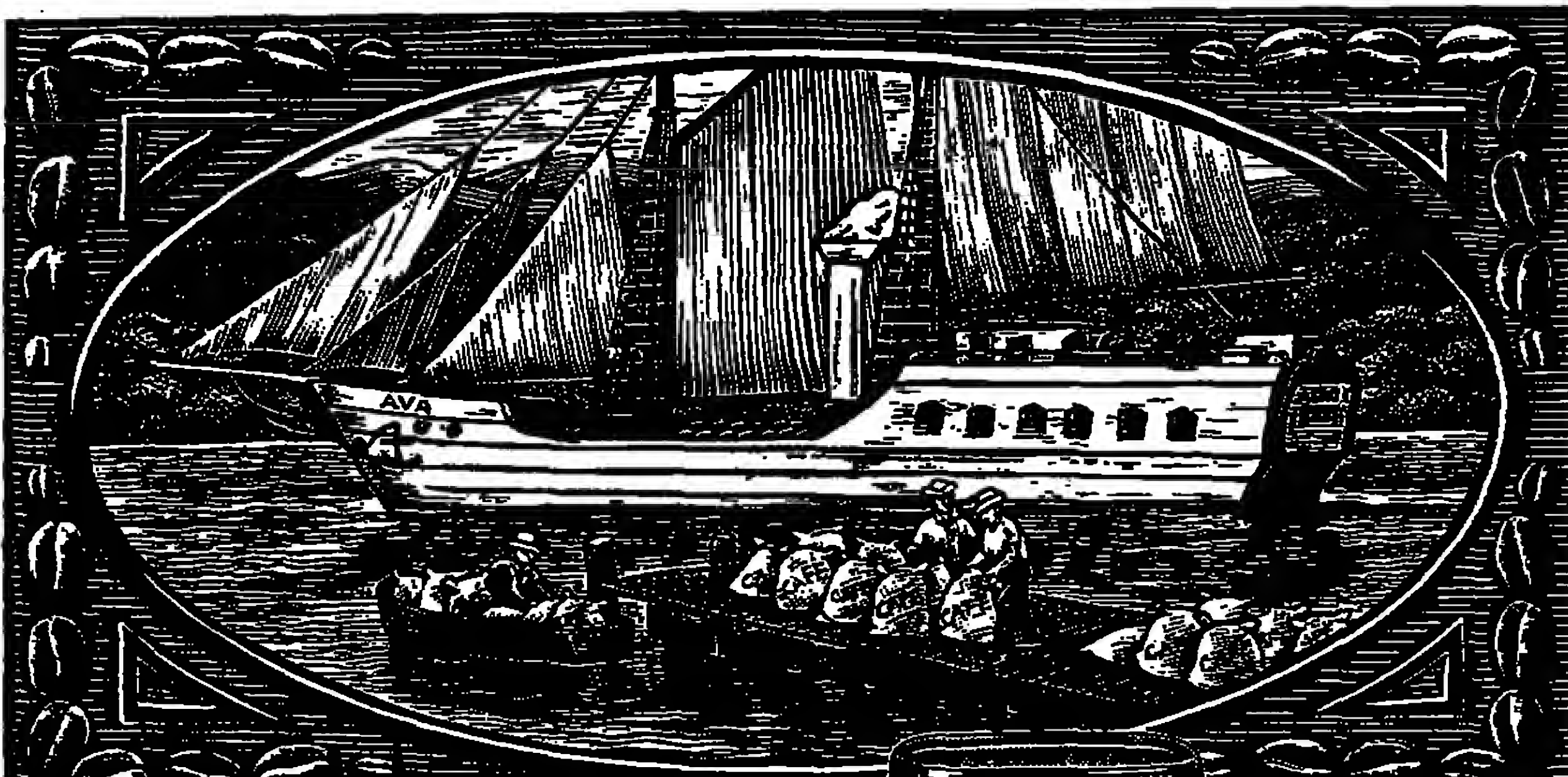
and mixing until it makes a dough which will just hold together. Sift a little flour over it, and lightly roll out the dough to a thickness of about 1cm (1/2 inch). Line a well-buttered pudding basin of 2 litres (3 1/2 pints) capacity with the dough, trimming the surplus from the edge and rolling it into a circle for the top. Toss all the filling ingredients in two tablespoons of seasoned flour and put them in the pastry lined bowl. Pour in cold stock to come about two-thirds of the way up the filling. Fold the dough lining which is proud of the filling towards the centre of the bowl and dampen the edge with water. Top with the circle of dough and press to seal. Cover the basin with well-buttered greaseproof paper and foil which have been folded together to make a 2.5cm (1 inch) pleat across the

diameter of the bowl and tie down firmly with string. Stand the pudding in a large saucepan and pour in boiling water to come about halfway up the sides of the basin. Bring back to the boil, cover and simmer the pudding for about four hours, taking care that the water does not go off the boil. Top up with boiling water. Serve the pudding from its basin with a clean cloth pinned round it. Just before serving, cut a small round hole in the top of the pudding and pour in a little more hot stock. To serve three to four, use half quantities of the above ingredients and a 1.5 litre (3 1/2 pint) pudding basin. Steam the pudding for about 2 1/2 hours. For individual steamed puddings that can be turned out, roll the crust thinner and use it to line small basins holding about 300ml (1/2 pint) each. Top with foil, tied on

By Beryl Downes... here

here... The art nouveau of hi-tech style

By Francesco... WEEKEND TIPS



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DRINK

New bloom in Burgundy

Monsieur Le Belge, the John McEnroe of the Mâconnais, slams his fist on the table and declares loudly: "What they allow in Montrachet I have never made here in Mâcon. I'm treating Pierrecolis like a great wine." Jean-Marie Guffens, 32 years old and the only Belgian winemaker and grower in the region, is clearly a determined young man.



Lycée Agricole of Mâcon studying winemaking. The next stage was to find a property in France but, with a limited budget, the choice was difficult. Guffens explains his eventual purchase of a small, steep, difficult-to-work vineyard full of ancient vines, close to Pierrecolis carrying this village's AC of Mâcon-Pierrecolis: "I bought it because it was the only vineyard that nobody wanted but everyone knew it made the best wine of the village."

Apart from exceptional soil, old vines, small yields, picking the grapes in two stages to ensure that each and every one is fully ripe, avoiding the bumper crop-encouraging chemical fertilizers and employing cow manure instead, Guffens, aided by his wife Germaine, also from Belgium, is as fastidious in the cellar as he is in the vineyard. He claims that even if you have good ground and good grapes the next stage, of vinifying and preserving this quality in the bottle, is not easy. Other winemakers would perhaps disagree, but then they filter, pump and sulphur their wines — all treatments he avoids. And none of them exclusively employs a gentle, revamped wooden 17th-century handpress.

Although Jean-Marie Guffens first made wine in 1980, 1985 is the first vintage to have been shipped to Britain: it is stocked by Laytons, 19, Midland Road, London NW1. The Guffens's Mâcon-Pierrecolis wines may well be twice the price of supermarket red and white Mâcon, but they are the finest Mâconnais wines that I have ever tasted. The '85 Mâcon-Pierrecolis Blanc (£8.43) with its pale gold colour and extraordinarily fine buttery bouquet and taste outclasses many a Côte d'Or white I know at the same price, as does its red sister the '85 Mâcon-Pierrecolis. Cuvée Vieilles Vignes, whose enormous deep purple colour, violet scent and rich, velvety taste shows the heights the Gamay grape can reach in this part of the world (£6.23). The star in the Guffens's stable is, however, the '85 Pouilly-Fuissé. Les Crays, with its wonderful pale green-gold colour and elegant smoky taste (£14.76). If the locals feel that Jean-Marie Guffens is crazy, wine lovers certainly won't.

Guffens also vinifies part of the Pouilly-Fuissé. Les Crays vineyard, to the south of Vergisson, whose vines are almost as old and even steeper than those of Pierrecolis.

Jane MacQuitty

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THE ARTS

The novel approach to literary glitter

"I really can't believe I came from here", snickered the Australian novelist Peter Carey as he surveyed the dowdy purlieus of Bacchus Marsh, Victoria. Everyone has to come from somewhere, but it seems that only Booker-shortlisted literati are granted the opportunity of interviewing themselves in their native towns.

Ombuds: *The Most Beautiful Lies* (BBC1) did the viewer the signal service of dispensing with the poodle-faking style common to literary profiles and, instead, gave the subject free rein to confide such things as his wish "to celebrate the human spirit" — the sort of thing a fictional satirist would have an author say.

To a greater or lesser degree, all fiction worth reading is autobiographical: it never comes as much of a revelation to learn that individual writers have taken their inspiration from the world around them. Exercises such as this — dressed up with gorgeously photographed landscapes and goblets of dramatization — tend to echo the procedures of

TELEVISION

pop promo videos, and in the process to eclipse, or at least subvert, the purposes of literature.

It was a decent idea to adapt for television J. B. Priestley's nostalgic novel of the variety-theatre life, *Lost Empires* (Granada), though not perhaps in a version of eight hours' duration; sandbagged with tactical advice, the young hero had to wait 90 minutes for his first proper kiss. The voice-over is a ghastly mistake, rendering Priestley's stolid prose both distractingly and redundantly. In "stately, handsome Edinburgh" (were these really the acutest epithets he could manage?), "the pale sunlight was brushing the stone with brilliant gold." Either we have eyes or we do not.

At times, the opening double-length episode was like clawing one's way through an Edwardian padding, and of the choicest plums — John Castle's granite misogyny, Brian Glover's falling-down-drunk bombast, Laurence Olivier's dipso-paranoia — the last has already come to a bloody end.

Martin Cropper

RADIO REVIEW

David Wade's review of radio programmes has had to be held over. It will appear on the Arts page on Monday, October 27.

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ARTS
Wimbledon

Ten years ago today the National Theatre was officially opened on the South Bank. Sir Peter Hall looks back over the decade and announces that at the end of 1988 he will hand over the reins

Ten years hard

National institutions like Wimbledon or the British Museum seem eternal fixtures. Their beginnings are remembered with difficulty and with surprise. It is like that now with the National Theatre. Denis Lasdun's building stands on the South Bank, familiar after ten years of hard use, and confident that London's riverside would today seem incomplete without it.

We planned the opening of this splendid palace in a tin-roofed prefab in a Lambeth back street. It leaked, was full of rats, and had long served as the NT's offices. Behind it, blackberries grew wild, a healthy reminder that any city is temporary. At this time of year, some of us would pick them in the evenings to take home.

It was an unreal period of waiting, wondering when and how we should leave the Old Vic for our new home. Laurence Olivier was expected to lead the company into it. But building delays turned months into years, and this, combined with Larry's ill health, made him give up and tragically miss the most appropriate opening in English theatrical history. For, without him, there would be no National Theatre.

The new building's empty towers and terraces continued to rise hesitantly on the South Bank. A dozen years ago it was inhabited only by painfully slow workmen. I wandered through it many times. Sometimes it looked like a wonderful place of enjoyment waiting to welcome thousands; sometimes like a grey ghost-ship moored somewhat temporarily to the bank of the Thames. Either way the size of it frightened me. I pondered in near panic how we could fill with plays and people, six days a week, 52 weeks of the year, not one theatre but three, all under the same roof. That is, if we could ever get our foot in the door. The building delays were beginning to seem endless and absurd. How could we speed things up? Finally, we decided to force our way into the unfinished building and open it piecemeal. It was a risk, but at least we were being constructive.

The old Lambeth prefab, where we thought out our strategy and planned our opening repertoire, was pulled down; the blackberries vanished. But the National Theatre

quickly flourished, packed with audiences curious to see the brand new playhouse. One by one, the Lyttelton, the Olivier and the Cottesloe staged plays. The whole process took a full twelve months — and they were the most complex and demanding of my life.

Because of all this, the adrenalin pumped extra hard; there was among us an absolute determination to succeed. I have always enjoyed a good scrap and I have to admit that it was very exciting — even when it was alarming.

I can't pretend I was ignorant in 1976 of the thousand natural knocks, as well as the rather fewer delights, that are likely to attend the launch of any new cultural giant in our failure-loving society. And this was compounded because it was happening in the passionate world of the theatre.

Fourteen years earlier, I had started the RSC. That was an exhilarating and taxing experience; but the NT's birth on the South Bank had problems infinitely more difficult. I give thanks that we were blessed not only with great actors, writers, directors and designers, but a superb technical and administrative team, many of whom are still with me. And, from the start, the public always supported us.

This article is headed "Ten years hard" — but it needs qualifying. Although it expresses hard work and many difficulties, my life at the NT has been far from a punishment. It has been a decade full of happiness, and real achievement, some my own, but most by other people. I have seen young actors grow into the greatest parts in our



have staged nearly thirty foreign playwrights from Aeschylus to Mamet, yet I am still criticized for doing too much British drama. The left-wing Press like to denounce the NT as a purveyor of Ayckbourn and Shaffer to the middle classes; the right-wing Press was feverish because public money is being spent on "Marxist" playwrights like Hare, Brenton and Bond. But I accept all that. I think, if the clamour of the axe-grinders is equal, I have it about right.

Of course, good news is not news — which means that it is dull. And I'm afraid that, looking back over the 10 years, it's not the triumphs (and there are many — certainly enough for us to feel proud) that come first into my mind. It's the setbacks and the near-disasters that rise before me, like volcanoes in the ocean.

I have seen a colleague-director brought unsuccessfully to trial at the Old Bailey by Mary Whitehouse for a particular scene in *The Romans in Britain*. There have been three damaging strikes. And we have suffered severe financial crises — year after year our grant has been reduced in real terms; in 1985, we even had temporarily to shut the Cottesloe. The thought too never leaves me that, sufficiently financed, we could have realized fully the enormous potential of the NT: toured the country for 40 weeks a year instead of the usual 15 or so, brought regional companies to the South Bank, and created a genuine national theatre. Perhaps the Arts Council will reflect on this in the future.

The worst of all these setbacks was, I suppose, the 1979 unofficial strike which closed down the NT completely for 10 days and then went on for another two months while, with the support of the actors, we struggled to stage some productions without settings or in the wrong ones.

Strikes not only hit at your work, they hit at your heart. Despite your anger, you are hurt by the picket at the gate, people you have worked with, huddled round a brazier — as

cold and unhappy outside as you are inside. But I don't regret the bad times any more than I regret bad weather. They were challenges which hardened our resolve. I have made mistakes of course — occasionally big ones. But the NT on the South Bank has been an undoubted success-story packed with original and dangerous work — and also, consistently, with audiences. But of course I am prejudiced.

At first, this article contained the names of those who had contributed to that success-story. They are on "Marxist" playwrights like Hare, Brenton and Bond. But I accept all that. I think, if the clamour of the axe-grinders is equal, I have it about right.

When we opened the NT, Tom Phillips designed an intriguing poster for us. Lettered across it — much mocked at the time, I remember — were the words "The New National Theatre Is Yours". Now, when I walk through the foyers and see people, knees hunched, sitting on the floor, listening to jazz, or children buying books at the bookshop, or an auditorium hear a roar of laughter or feel a tense silence, I know that the poster was right.

I still have over two years left at the National and — as a director there — six more productions. Then my contract is up. I have told my Chairman and Board that I do not wish them to consider an extension. *The Sunday Times*, the latest axe-bearer — and a somewhat bloody one at that — will probably claim that this proves the rightness of their recent articles on Trevor Nunn and myself. But they are wrong. By the end of 1988 I shall have had 15 years at the National Theatre and that is long enough. After founding the RSC, and opening the NT, and with the happy and fruitful continuum of Glyndebourne, I hope to have the time and energy to do one more major job. I have loved working on the South Bank. And I celebrate our tenth birthday by thanking everybody who has made it possible.

CONCERT

Philharmonia/Salonon Festival Hall

Last night's performance by the Philharmonia of Berio's *Sinfonia* was the shining exception to the neglect of contemporary orchestral music about which I wondered a week ago, and the people behind me hated it. But, and this is surely the important thing, they spent a full ten minutes, while we waited for the platform seating to be altered, telling each other why they hated it, in great and exact detail.

I cannot ever remember a work from the standard repertoire being discussed with such acuity and at such length, and, pace the managing director of the London Symphony Orchestra, I would rather measure the success of a concert in terms of audience thought than audience numbers.

It was, too, a performance to make one think. Having been used to hearing the work on record, I found at times the very incisive, strong and direct conducting of Esa-Pekka Salonen made the sound too palpably present: Berio works

Paul Griffiths

Provoking thought

CONCERT

Philharmonia/Salonon Festival Hall

so much, after all, with what is vaguely heard, partly understood, diffusely located. And then the grand jamboree of the middle movement seemed at first too much a child of 1968, impossible to perform in these more sober times except as a historical exercise.

Yet the savage cut to Daryl Runswick's narration, which had seemed out of place, helped turn this movement in its later stages towards a bleakness and numbness of feeling.

The carnival had gone, and here was the litter on the waste ground. Indeed, so powerful did this movement become in its ending that the recollections of the same world in the fifth movement were superfluous, and for the first time I found myself wishing Berio had kept to his original plan of ending with a short finale.

Paul Griffiths

Farcical extremes

THEATRE

Scenes from a Marriage Barbican

There was a time when farce occupied a lowly status on the British stage. It was then discovered to have an ancient pedigree and was elevated in the repertoire. Now it has become invincibly respectable, bracketed with tragedy as a high-status ruthlessly truthful genre, and we are in danger of forgetting that it started off by making people laugh.

Scenes From a Marriage is an extreme instance of this gentrification. Adapted by Peter Barnes from three of Feydeau's last plays and directed by Barnes's regular colleague, Terry Hands, it follows the career of the luckless dentist, Lucien Follinquet, from his surgery to his living room and finally into the hell-hole of the marital bedchamber. Just what kind of man Lucien might be off the premises we never find out, as he is seen from first to last as the wretched victim of family life.

He cannot so much as attempt to extract a tooth without his wife barging in to demand that he dismiss the maid; and to threaten to leave home (at which he fleetingly enjoys a false ray of hope). Playing pregnancy as her trump card, she stays put to ruin his meals and summon a team of medical and family sympathizers, who likewise treat him like dirt and finally hold him responsible for what turns out to be a phantom labour. Lucien then has a night out at the arts ball, returning at four in the morning attired as Louis XIV in a

Paul Griffiths

THEATRE

Scenes from a Marriage Barbican

rainsoaked cocked hat which sprays its contents over his already enraged spouse.

From this he sinks into a whirlpool of vilification, helpless to defend himself against a woman who knows how to twist every remark to put him back where he belongs — in the wrong. News of her mother's death (which turns out to be as much an illusion as the phantom pregnancy) gives him a brief interval of sanctimonious lamentation; but by the end, the sleepless partners are all set for their next fight.

Coming from Feydeau, this miserable chronicle ought to detonate a comic explosion on the grand scale. As it happens, last night's audience sat through it with hardly a giggle. What has gone wrong? Barnes's text is muscular, highly speakable and laced with good jokes that never hold up the farcical mechanics. Maybe Feydeau himself is partly to blame. The plays are new to me, but you do not have to be a feminist to be put off by their sexual one-sidedness. However, farce does not



Janet Dale prepares for battle in the bedchamber

THEATRE

Scenes from a Marriage Barbican

involve, playing softly amid the opening screams of Lucien's first patient.

Those screams, however, are also the production's death-knell. They are so blood curdling that there is no chance of building towards any further climax; and the evening proceeds with similar sledgehammer blows, which must be exhausting to play and are certainly trying to watch.

The prevailing atmosphere is German rather than French; as though we are being invited not to witness a comic response to pain, but a series of didactic examples of how marriage can go wrong. Again and again, at the top of their voices, Janet Dale and Trevor Fessenden illustrate the tactics of female domination and the fatality of male appeasement. You get the message loud and clear and wait for the comic detail which fails to materialize.

In place of surprise timing, physical invention and the accelerating derangement that make farce a joy, the evening remains on a level of monotonous complaint, diversified only by the sight of Lucien getting his sword in a twist, colliding with an opening door and other sight-gags you can see coming a mile off. In the circumstances, there is some fun to be had from Miriam Karlin as a pushy midwife and Peter Jones as a seigniorial uncle whose passion for cards offers a blessed relief from the marital wasteland.

Irving Wardle

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REVIEW

A sax for all seasons

JAZZ RECORDS

Jamie Talbot Altitude (Mova MVL 21)

Only a few years since he completed his apprenticeship with NYJO, Jamie Talbot has matured into an alto saxophonist of formidable gifts...

Programmed to display a musician as comfortable with the pop-tinged samba of Al Jarreau's 'Mornin' as with the 100% proof bebop of Charlie Parker's 'Relaxin' at Camarillo'...

On the other hand, several pieces feature the sort of gimlet-eyed alto-and-tenor statements that are the very stuff of hard-bop classicism...

Richard Williams

ROCK RECORDS

Big Audio Dynamite No 10, Upping St (CBS 450137)

From the opening bars of 'C'mon Every Beatbox' where hip collides with Eddie Cochran, breathing new life into the Woodstock message of love and unity...

David Sinclair

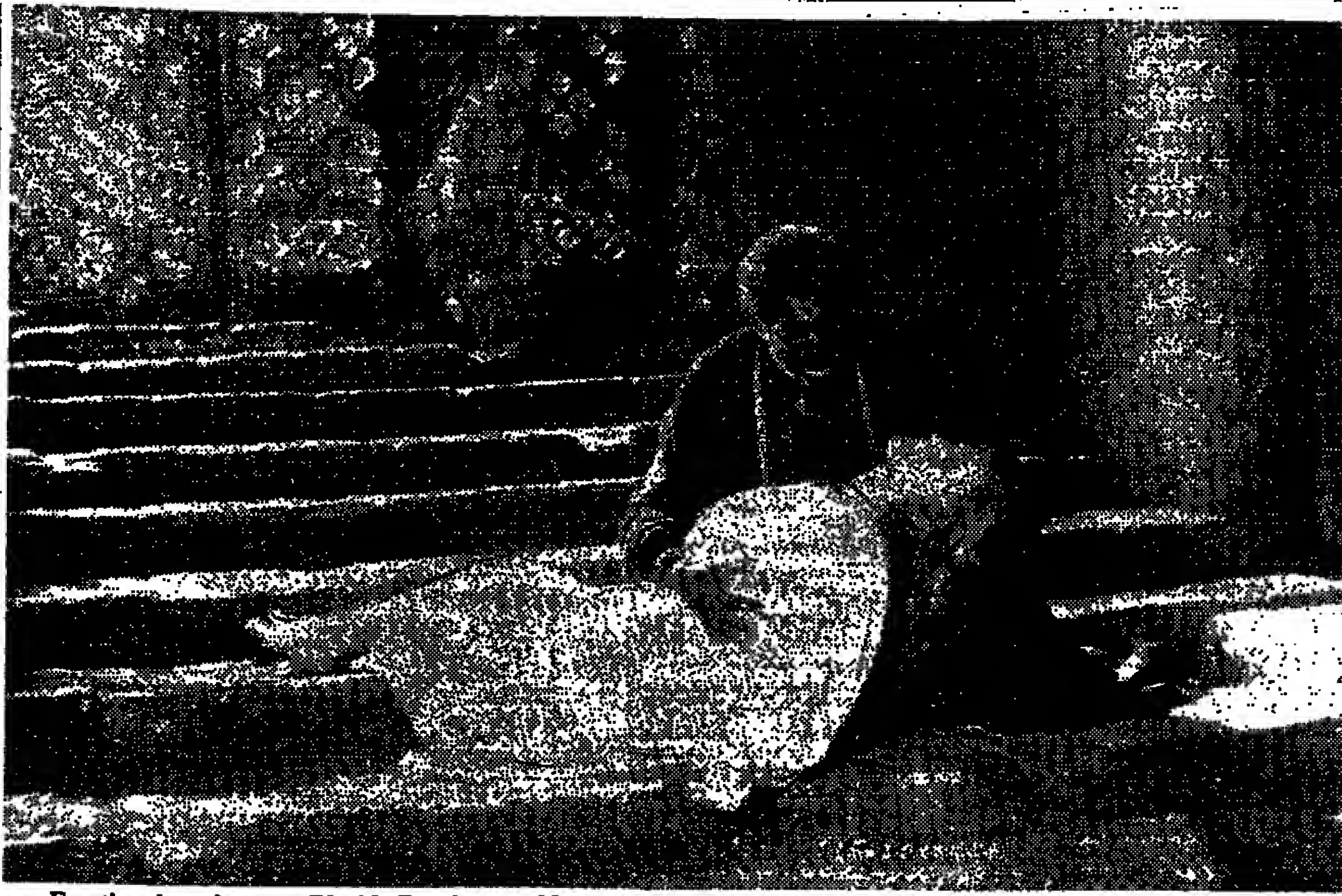
Having assembled BAD, a group capable of creating a unique synthesis of cultural influences, Jones has now picked up the best threads of the relationship with his old partner from The Clash...

An Auction will make History: Hamburg - November 29th, 1986

In its third auction in 1986, the Hanseatisches Auktionshaus für Historica will continue its success by yet another special auction sale of collectors' items of historical importance...

HANSEATISCHES AUKTIONSHAUS FÜR HISTORICA HÜSKEN/SCHÄFER OHG NEUER WALL 75 - 2000 HAMBURG 36 - WEST GERMANY TEL. HAMBURG 363137/38

John Arlott's 100 GREATEST BATSMEN. A superbly illustrated selection of cricketing greats - as memorable, rich and varied as the tones of the celebrated commentator himself. In bookshops now at £14.95.



Emotional combatants: Placido Domingo and Katia Ricciarelli in the death scene from the Zeffirelli film of Otello

Outstanding Otello

Verdi Otello. Ricciarelli/Domingo/Diaz, La Scala Orchestra/EMI CDs 7 47450 2 (2 CDs also black disc and cassette)

'After the squalls, verbal and meteorological, which greeted the opening of the Zeffirelli film of Otello comes the recording. It may reassure some of the outraged musicologists, who failed to understand that Zeffirelli was making a movie for a cinema audience...

It does though still reflect many qualities of the film. There is Ricciarelli's Desdemona, a pure and youthful figure until both apprehension

CLASSICAL RECORDS

and incomprehension begin to eat away at her peace of mind. Compare the timbre of the Act I Love Duet, which both she and Domingo treat as a piece of pure bel canto phrased with utmost restraint...

Justino Diaz's Iago is an equal success and it comes as a surprise to learn that he has never sung the role on stage, although that will be rectified in Covent Garden's new production next January...

pered end to the Credo, 'E poi? La morte e i nulla', sums up the approach.

Some of the minor roles are no more than adequate and the Cassio of Ezio di Cesare, without Urbano Barberini's screen presence to back him up, is decidedly weak.

And so to Domingo in the title role. As noted from Los Angeles a couple of weeks ago after his 100th stage Otello, Domingo has been changing his approach both dramatic and vocal. He is now much more of a tenor Otello, with darker baritone timbre almost brushed away. And it is anguished rather than rage or pure jealousy which is the dominating emotion.

John Higgins

Wild voice of scorched passions

Wagner: Wesendonk-Lieder, Balzsa: Les nuits d'été Balzsa, LSC/Tate. Philips 416 807-2 (CD, also on black disc and cassette)

Agnes Balzsa is not by any means a usual sort of voluptuousness: it is raw, unpredictable, sometimes crudely vulgar, voiced as much in a bleak open tone as in radiance. It is, in a word, wild, and it throws an entirely new light on the Wesendonk-Lieder. We are way out of the drawing room, out of the hothouse event; this is fiercely theatrical but also fiercely individual singing, scorning its own path over the almost Elgarian bloom and splendour of Jeffrey Tate's accompaniment.

Those who want the earlier and more aggressive Otello of Domingo will find that RCA have recently repackaged their 1979 recording on CD (RDB295). There is much to recommend it, including James Levine's conducting, although I am not among the admirers of Renato Scotto in the title role.

John Higgins



Independent voice: Agnes Balzsa

a personality, and her way with Wagner is considerably less surprising, though scarcely less admirable. For a singer who phrases in such wide, arching spans, she has a great deal of use for the words. Indeed, the vowel sounds become very essential elements in her phrasing, suggesting even that the melody springs directly from their contrast.

But the record is not without its worries. There is a troublesome vibrato, especially in the middle register, and the low passages in Senta's ballad and the Siegfried solo are gruff. Yet the same faults seem insignificant beside the eagerness and golden power she brings to Brünnhilde's immolation.

Paul Griffiths

White House democracy bombs again

PAPERBACKS

Slideshow: Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia, expanded edition, by William Shawcross (The Hogarth Press, £5.95)

In 1970 Cambodia was a fertile and peaceful country made up of illiterate peasants, mostly small landowners, who were deeply loyal to their monarch, Prince Sihanouk, their village, and the local Buddhist temple.

David Sinclair

Because we know what we do about the Nixon regime, accusations against it may not seem very newsworthy; but what is new is Kissinger's profound complicity with the man he had labelled only a year before as dangerous. It is the psychological transformation of Henry Kissinger, on being appointed National Security Adviser to President Nixon, which is one of the most interesting features of the book.

Instead Kissinger and Nixon locked themselves into the White House, developed a hot-line to the Pentagon, and introduced a modus operandi of total secrecy that bypassed the Defense Department, the State Department, and Congress.



Complicity in action: saturation bombing by B-52s

his high-level friendships in Peking, but it should have understood his difficulties, been grateful for his tolerance of American air raids into Cambodian territory, and realized that the peasants' overwhelming loyalty to him might prove valuable.

From a military point of view the blunders were even worse. The fatal decision to invade Cambodia seems to have been made by Kissinger and Nixon alone in a pact with the Pentagon: 'No one but Kissinger and Nixon knew

what was going on,' a State Department official told Shawcross. In 1971 alone 'a single B-52 squadron dropped in one year half the tonnage dropped by US planes in the Pacific in World War II'.

Kissinger, Nixon and the Destruction of Cambodia is a tough, aggressive, partisan book and, no mean, bombardier himself, Shawcross has allowed himself considerable overkill. But readers cannot fail to be dismayed by this well-researched account of the despotic and irrespon-

sible behaviour of an elected leader, and his assistant, in a country proud of its democratic safeguards.

Isabel Butterfield

BOOKS IN BRIEF

Unexplained Laughter by Alice Thomas Ellis (Penguin, £2.95)

This is one of the novels that should have been on the Booker short list last year. Lydia, sophisticated Fleet Street hackette, has retired with an irritating woman friend to a cottage in darkest Wales to recover from a broken love affair.

Kabul Catastrophe, The Retreat of 1982, Patrick Macrory (Oxford, £6.95) On January 13, 1842, Surgeon

Brydon, bleeding and exhausted, limped into Jalalabad. He was the sole survivor of General Elphinstone's Army of the Indus, which had been wiped out en route from Kabul by revolting Afghans.

The Sea Wall by Marguerite Duras (Faber, £4.95) First published in France in 1952 as Un Barrage contre le Pacifique, this is the story of a French widow, attracted by the romance of the Orient, who invests her savings in a strip of land on the Indo-China coast in the early part of this century.

Philip Howard

THE TIMES ARTS DIARY

Publish and be damned

An intriguing insight into a personality clash at the Arts Council is about to be provided by the protagonists. Sir Roy Shaw, who was secretary general until 1983, and Charles Osborne, literary director until this year, disclose in their respective memoirs how each tried to oust the other from office.

Czech check

Members of the Royal Shakespeare Company rehearsing Arthur Miller's play The Archbishop's Ceiling, are receiving speech training from an unusual quarter - the man hired to photograph the production.

H. M. Youth Custody Centre in Castington, Northumberland, is looking for a playwright to instruct its medium and long-term residents in creative writing and drama production.

Rock and role

Roll over Beethoven: a rock-music course at Perth College of Further Education is proving so popular that the next batch of students will aspire to a Higher National Diploma, equivalent to those awarded for mechanical engineering and motor maintenance.



American guitarist Eddie Van Halen and British singer Sade Adu are said to be the most popular sources of inspiration this term.

Hall of fame

Sir Peter Hall professes himself amused by helpful suggestions from Arts Diary readers for his South Bank swan-song. Bottles of bubbly are duly awarded for the following submissions: You Can't Take It With You School for Scandal (performed on a high wire) A Farewell to Arms All's Well That Ends Well Entering into the spirit of the thing, Sir Peter has come up with a few ideas of his own.

Gavin Bell

CHESS

Royal echoes of games past

I have for some time believed that Kasparov is a modern Alekhine. His attacks exhibit the same sudden fire: he is capable, when necessary, of an identically rigorous positional logic and he employs similar openings. Kasparov is even capable of committing grievous errors stemming from over-confidence, as Alekhine was. Kasparov has specifically denied this comparison, but I wonder if he is truly conversant with Alekhine's games.

While I was watching the 22nd Kasparov-Karpov game in Leningrad I was forcibly reminded of an Alekhine world match game from 1929. As common motifs I remembered the transformation of what appeared to be positional pressure into a devastating blitz on the opponent's King. In both cases, I recalled the victim's King was imprisoned on the King's flank and a key element was a Knight operating from d7 (d2 in Alekhine's case) threatening to deliver a deadly check on f8 (or f1).

Chess board diagram showing a position from the Kasparov-Karpov game. White: Bogolyubov; Black: Alekhine. Freeing d6 for his Knight and also threatening ...Rb3 to attack White's weak doubled pawns.

A beautiful prequel to Kasparov's Nd7 against Karpov. Here Alekhine has a memorable note: 'This sudden stroke - threatening mate in three by ...Nf1+ - should have won at least the exchange. But Bogolyubov prefers suicide to long agony.'

Raymond Keene

BRIDGE

Giving spice to a familiar recipe

One quality that distinguishes the great chefs of the world is presentation. It is Victor Mollo's skill in that field which makes his latest book, The Complete Bridge Player (Methuen, £8.95), such a delight to read.

Unless the technical content breaks entirely new ground, my palate has become a little jaded with the anonymous struggles between the points of the compass. But there are few undiscovered truffles in the bridge world. Mollo does not claim to have found any new stratagems. He explains his philosophy as follows: 'When the cardinal points come to life, and blood runs through their veins, it is no longer true that Harry and George, Jane and Joan play the same way in identical situations.'

Bridge hand diagram showing a deal between Garozzo, Hackett, Sharif, and Hoffman. Opening lead ♠6.

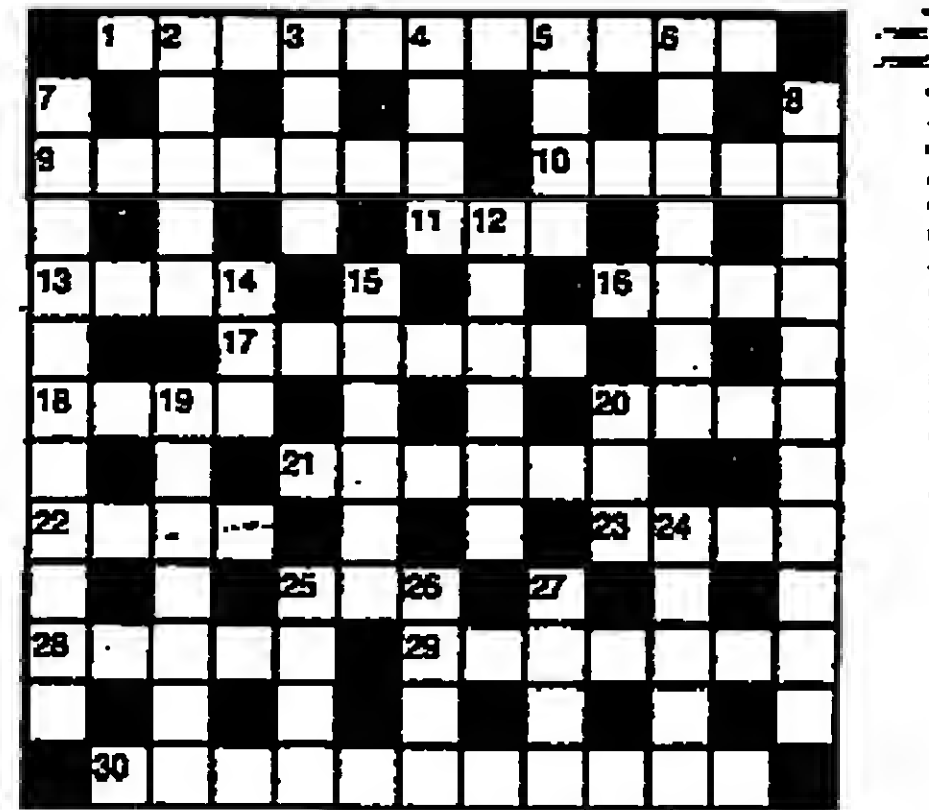
Omar Sharif's two spades showed a six card suit and 8-10 points. Hoffman won the lead in dummy and played a club to his ♠9. Hoffman's plan was to enjoy the ♠A and then take the double diamond finesse. A club ruff, a further diamond finesse and another club ruff would produce seven tricks, with the ♠KQ10 certain to produce another two tricks.

Jeremy Flint

CONCISE CROSSWORD NO 1089

Prizes of the New Collins Thesaurus will be given for the first two correct solutions opened on Thursday, October 30, 1986. Entries should be addressed to The Times Concise Crossword Competition, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN. The winners and solution will be announced on Saturday, November 1, 1986.

- CROSSWORD 1: Physically disabled (11), Wash, iron (7), Musical exercise (5), Record (3), Remove skin (4), Baffle (4), On ship (6), Approve (4), Medieval violin (4), Liveness (5), As well (4), Holy Roman Emperor 962-973 (4), Wife's title (3), Liveness (5), Reindeer (7), 30th Anniversary party (11), Maltreat (5), Aeneas's lover (4), Be concerned (4), Common type (4), Evasive (7), Compulsive theft (11), Circular window (4,2,5), Barkentine (6), Diny (3), Practical joker (6), Fifth Zodiac sign (3), Ritual restriction (5), Lake (4), Mark for life (4), Urinary child (4).



- SOLUTIONS TO NO 1088: 1 Rating 5 Floppy 8 IOU 9 Former 10 Nudity 11 Sari 12 Fosse Way 14 Awhile 17 Sapote 19 Captrap 22 Nest 24 Redent 25 Elkhir 26 Tom 27 Feisty 28 Elf (11), 2 Maltreat (5), 3 Aeneas's lover (4), 4 Be concerned (4), 5 Common type (4), 6 Evasive (7), 7 Compulsive theft (11), 8 Circular window (4,2,5), 9 Barkentine (6), 10 Diny (3), 11 Practical joker (6), 12 Fifth Zodiac sign (3), 13 Ritual restriction (5), 14 Lake (4), 15 Mark for life (4), 16 Urinary child (4). SOLUTION TO NO 1083 (last Saturday's prize Concise): 1 Earthy 2 Antonym 3 Dimly 4 Ewe 5 Ream 6 Scut 7 Anthem 8 Dir 9 Flop 10 Adhere 11 Dust 12 Dodo 13 Cow 14 Lunch 15 Israel 16 Ona 17 Karyasam 18 Down 19 Ullra 20 Hank 21 Tame 22 Mace 23 Gamine 24 Tarradiddle 25 Nyeptovich 26 Weaver 27 Mat 28 Studio 29 Rosstrum 30 Fed 31 Omega 32 Char 26 Wish 27 Day.

THE WEEK AHEAD



CONCERTS RISING FINN: Esa Pekka Salonen, the promising young Finnish conductor, takes the baton with the Philharmonia Orchestra with whom he made his British debut in 1983...



JAZZ VOX BOP: Bobby McFerrin uses his extraordinary vocal facility to imitate the sound of jazz instruments...



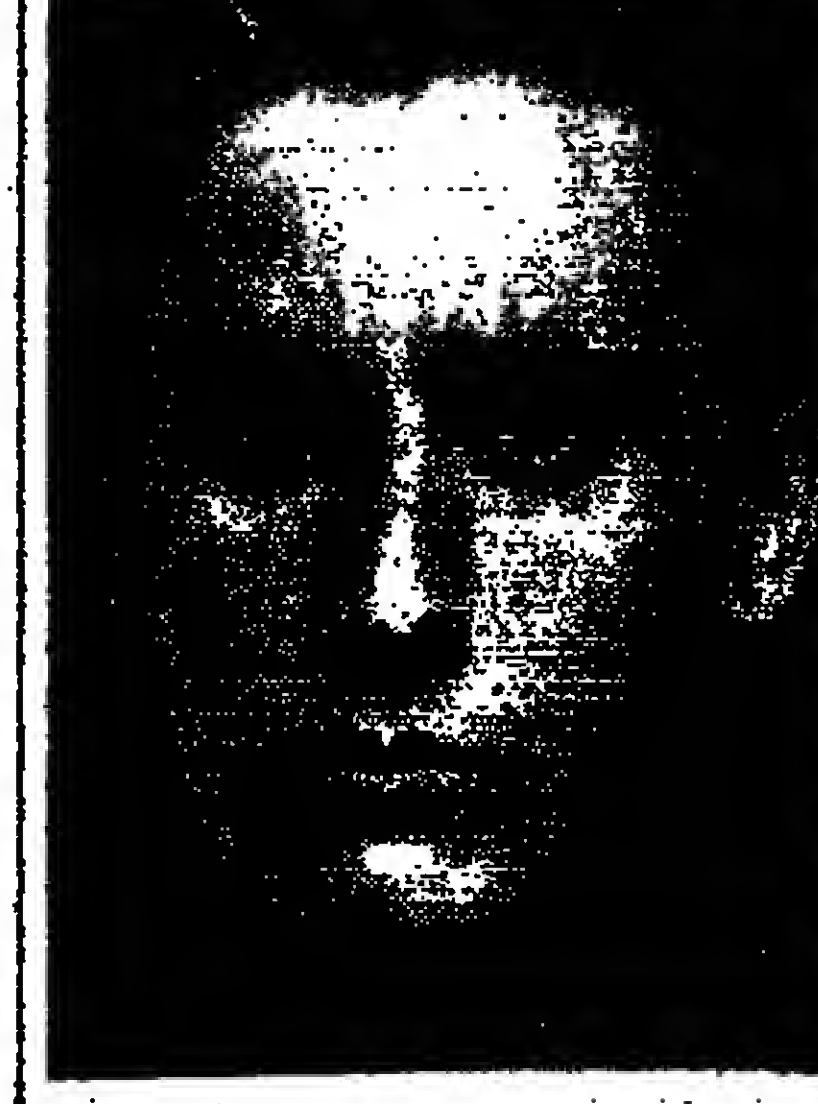
OPERA LADY VI: Lucia Aliberti will now be singing the title role in all the current run of performances of Verdi's La traviata...



THEATRE MILLER'S TALE: Arthur Miller explores the fate of the individual in a totalitarian country in The Archbishop's Ceiling...



TELEVISION FOOL PROOF: Shaughan Seymour, who was a notable Lewis Elliot in C. P. Snow's Strangers and Brothers...



FILMS GROWING PAINS: Emilio Estevez, the son of Martin Sheen, and a member of the 'brat pack' of young Hollywood actors...

THEATRE IN PREVIEW

THE INFERNAL MACHINE: Simon Callow directs his own translation of the Cocteau version of the Greek tragedy of Jocasta and Oedipus...

OPENINGS

DAVE ALLEN LIVE: One-man show by the popular TV comedian. His first West End show for five years...

SELECTED

ROCKERY NODDY: Tom Courtenay looks though effectively cast in Ben Travers's classic farce...

OUT OF TOWN

BELFAST: What the Butler Saw: Joe Orton's last comedy, seen in the West End in 1969...

GLASGOW: Hidden Fires: Robert David MacDonald directs his own translation of the play by Alfred de Musset...

RADIO

THE REAL DALLAS: William Davis visits the city that claims a thousand millionaires and looks for the real-life incarnations of J. R. Miss Ellis and Sue Ellen...

TELEVISION

TREASURE HOUSES OF BRITAIN: The civilized and knowledgeable John Julius Norwich conducts a three-part tour of castles and stately homes...

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA

A new Cav and Pag opens on Wed at 7.30pm: the double-bill is directed by Ian Judge...

WELSH NATIONAL OPERA

Still in Cardiff with two performances of The Magic Flute tonight and Fri at 7.15pm...

OPERA NORTH

The first production of the company's ambitious Trojans arrives in Manchester on Tues and Fri...

SCOTTISH OPERA

The new Iolanthe continues with performances tonight, Tues and Thurs...

TUNES OF GLORY

Alec Guinness as a roistering Scottish colonial in conflict with his martinet replacement (John Mills)...

PENDENNIS

Dominic Guard as the romantic adolescent who becomes a world-weary sophisticate in a lively eight-part adaptation of Thackeray's comic novel...

LA PESTE

Albert Camus's symbolic tale of bubonic plague gripping a French port in Algeria...

A CLASS APART?

Report by Kevin Mulhearn on the pros and cons of special education for disabled children...

OPERA

GLYNDEBOURNE TOURING OPERA: In Plymouth this week with three productions from the summer...

ROCK

Joan Armatrading, the heart on her sleeve singer/songwriter has during the last 14 years inconspicuously recorded a catalogue of material...

CONCERTS

ALL BEETHOVEN: Peter Frank solos in Piano Concerto No 3, Norman del Mar conducts the London Symphony Orchestra...

MARRINER/ST MARTIN

Sir Neville Marriner conducts the Academy of St Martin-in-the-Fields in Vaughan Williams's Tallis Fantasia...

ALL BACH

Maurice Gandron, a fine cellist, plays Bach's unaccompanied Suites Nos 1, 2 and 3...

WATERCOLOURS

Autumn exhibition and sell-off of works by the esteemed Royal Society of Painters in Watercolours...

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WATERCOLOURS

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DANCE

NORTHERN BALLET: Two performances today at one tomorrow of their new Swan Lake at Glyndebourne...

CONCERTS

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BOOKINGS

SOUTH BANK: Advance postal booking open for December concerts, including world premiere of DeLius's American Concerto...

FIRST CHANCE

ROYAL FESTIVAL: Last performance of the Ashton program tonight and Wed. The Sleeping Beauty returns to the programmes Thurs, Covent Garden...

LAST CHANCE

BRIGHTON BEACH MEMOIRS: Last performances of Neil Simon play. Today at 2.15 and 7.45pm...

The fruits of passion



In his studio in Paris Auguste Rodin is contemplating a nude model. As she stands up, her hands on her hips and breasts thrust forward, he has a sudden moment of inspiration...

Inspired: Rodin and his sculpture The Kiss four of them sifting through the 7,500 drawings stored in the Rodin Museum, Paris, for this show...

walls, plain showcases, and isolated staging for the major pieces. But, despite the sober presentation, with an artist like Rodin passion keeps breaking through...

THE MISSION (PG): This year's British blockbuster, with Robert De Niro and Jeremy Irons engaged in the 18th-century power struggle between Jesuits and colonialists in South America...

For ticket availability, performance and opening times, telephone the numbers listed. Bookings: Anne Whitehouse. Concerts: Max Harrison. Dance: John Percival. Films: Geoff Brown. Films on TV: Peter Wyke. Galleries: Sarah Jane. Checkland; Jazz: Richard Williams. Opera: Hilary Finch. Radio: Peter Wyke. Television: Peter Wyke. Theatre: Peter Wyke. Patrick and Marlene. Cropper.

ENTERTAINMENTS

THE SOUTH BANK CENTRE

Open all day with free exhibitions and lunchtime music. Coffee Shop, Buffet, Bars and Riverside Cafe.

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

Table listing concert programs for the Royal Festival Hall, including dates, times, and featured artists like Esa-Pekka Salonen and John Wallace.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL

THE ENGLISH CHAMBER. Three Pianists (Dr. Harcourt, Dr. Williams, Dr. Williams) present Handel's Concerto for the Three Pianos.

PHILHARMONIA ORCHESTRA

Principal Conductor: Giuseppe Sinopoli. Principal Guest Conductor: Esa-Pekka Salonen.

TOMORROW AT 7.30

ESA-PEKKA SALONEN JOHN WALLACE Haydn's Trumpet Concerto Sibelius Four Lemminkäinen Legends

Wednesday 5 November at 7.30

JOHN OGDON Elgar Introduction and Allegro Rachmaninov Piano Concerto No. 2 Vaughan Williams Symphony No. 4

MONDAY NEXT 27 OCTOBER at 7.30 p.m.

ARRIVAL OF THE QUEEN OF SHEBA BRANDENBURG CONCERTO No. 3 MOZART PIANO CONCERTO No. 21, K. 467 VIVALDI THE FOUR SEASONS ENGLISH CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

FRIDAY NEXT 31 OCTOBER at 7.30 p.m.

Mendelssohn THE HERBIDES OV Schubert SYMPHONY No. 8 (UNFINISHED) Tchaikovsky PIANO CONCERTO No. 1 Beethoven SYMPHONY No. 5

Friday 7 November at 7.30

BBC Symphony Orchestra LOTHAR ZAGROSEK PHYLLIS BRYN-JULSON LINDA FINNIE SIEGFRIED JURISALEM

WEBERN YORK HOLLER MAHLER

Six Pieces Op. 6 Dramaplay (for UK performance) Das Klagenlied

SATURDAY 8 NOVEMBER at 7.30 p.m.

TCHAIKOVSKY Marche Slave Swan Lake Suite Piano Concerto No. 1, 12 Metetracker Suite 1812 Overture

IBBS & TILLET LTD presents

SEGOVIA

MONDAY 10 NOVEMBER at 7.30

FRANCESCO BALDI, SOR, TARREGA, J.S. BACH, RAMEAU, ALBENZ

XVII & XVIII CENTURIES MUSIC AND DANCE

DOLMETSCH ENSEMBLE Director Carl Dolmetsch

ACADEMY OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS

Conductor: SIR NEVILLE MARRINER IONA BROWN violin

THIS TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER 7.30pm

VAUGHAN WILLIAMS Fantasia on a theme by Thomas Tallis

WALTON

Violin Concerto in B minor BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 6 in F Op. 68 (Pastoral)

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL Tel: 01 928 3191, 01 928 8800

BARBICAN HALL

Barbican Centre, Silk St, EC2A 8DS 01-638 8891, 628 8795

FRIDAY NEXT 31 OCTOBER at 7.45 p.m.

BEETHOVEN CONCERTO LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER at 7.30 p.m.

ELGAR ENIGMA VARIATIONS RACHMANINOV PAGANINI REARSPODY SAINT-SAENS SYMPHONY No. 3 (ORGAN)

FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER at 7.45 p.m.

MUSIC FROM THE MOVIES

FRIDAY 14 NOVEMBER at 7.45 p.m.

WILLIAM TELL OVERTURE WATER MUSIC SUITE RACHMANINOV PIANO CONCERTO No. 2 Dvorak SYMPHONY No. 9 (NEW WORLD)

SATURDAY 15 NOVEMBER at 7.30 p.m.

GILBERT AND SULLIVAN THE BOATMEN OF THE GUARD

THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER 7.45pm

IVO POGORELICH SIBELIUS THE SWAN OF TUONELA TCHAIKOVSKY PIANO CONCERTO No. 1 SIBELIUS SYMPHONY No. 2

THURSDAY 13 NOVEMBER 7.45pm

BEETHOVEN BENITA VALENTE soprano ALFREDA HODGSON contralto ARTHUR DAVIES tenor STAFFORD DEAN bass MICHAEL TILSON THOMAS conductor PRO MUSICA CHORUS

THURSDAY 20 NOVEMBER 7.45pm

ROSSINI OVERTURE 'DER FREISCHUTZ' MOZART PIANO CONCERTO No. 23, K. 488R BEETHOVEN SYMPHONY No. 5

THURSDAY 27 NOVEMBER 7.45pm

MOZART EYE IN THE SKY THE NASH ENSEMBLE

FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER 7.45pm

THE NASH ENSEMBLE

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RAYMOND GUBBAY presents at the BARBICAN

FRIDAY NEXT 31 OCTOBER at 7.45 p.m.

BORODIN POLOVTSIAN DANCES PROKOFEV PIANO CONCERTO No. 3 MUSORGSKY RAVEL PICTURES FROM AN EXHIBITION

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Conductor: THOMAS WILLIAMS

SUNDAY 2 NOVEMBER at 7.30 p.m.

ELGAR ENIGMA VARIATIONS RACHMANINOV PAGANINI REARSPODY SAINT-SAENS SYMPHONY No. 3 (ORGAN)

ROYAL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

Conductor: PAUL DAVIS

TUESDAY 4 NOVEMBER at 7.45 p.m.

A Gala Concert in aid of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds

Tchaikovsky ROMEO & JULIET FANTASY OP. 17 MOZART PIANO CONCERTO No. 21 K. 467R BEETHOVEN SYMPHONY No. 3

FRIDAY 7 NOVEMBER at 7.45 p.m.

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THE NASH ENSEMBLE

VICTOR HOCHHAUSER presents at the BARBICAN

TONIGHT at 7.45

BEETHOVEN LONDON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Conductor: NORMAN DEL MAR

MOZART PIANO CONCERTO No. 3 (PASTORAL)

at the ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL

TONIGHT at 7.30 VIENNA BOYS CHOIR

Served and accompanied by works by MOZART, SCHUBERT, ELGAR, JOHANN STRAUSS

TUESDAY 4 NOVEMBER at 7.45 p.m.

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DANCE

NORTHERN GALLET

ROYAL BALLET

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Kingsley Amis's Booker Prize winning novel concerns the return of media-Welshman Alun Williams to the sceptical embrace of his homeland. While his old drinking friends mull over the implications in *The Bible*, their wives are at a coffee morning

After all, it was only wine

Two empty 1/2-litre bottles of Soave Superiore (DOC) stood on the glass-topped table next to a silver tray bearing ten or eleven used coffee-cups, some of them half full of finished-with coffee. The air in Sophie Norris's spacious drawing room was misty with cigarette smoke and loud with several conversations. True to Welsh punctuality, most of the ladies there had arrived at or slightly before the off at eleven and so not missed any part of what was going. The coffee and attendant biscuits, having conferred a kind of legitimacy on the session, had been made short work of, swallowed down by some like bread and butter before cake, scamped or skipped completely by others, and the real business was uncoiled and poured after about twenty minutes. Obviously it was drunk at different speeds thereafter, though you could have guessed that a couple of those in the room had been at the Soave, or perhaps the Frascati, earlier and elsewhere. After all, it was only wine.

Sophie herself was not one of the couple. Standing by the french window that gave a view of garden, golf links and, remotely, sea, she looked confident and comfortable, very much like the wife of a prosperous caterer recently semi-retired or more, and hardly at all like someone who in her time had been one of the surest things between Bridgend and Carmarthen town — quite a distinction. In tweed skirt and angora sweater her figure was still impressive, though her breasts no longer jutted out of her trunk like a pair of smallish thighs as they had once famously done. At the moment she and Gwen Celland Davies were talking about that day's star topic.

"Quite a good-looking man, I suppose you'd have to admit," said Gwen, fan-mindedly. "Or he was, anyway."

"Oh, not too bad if you like that rather flashy type," Sophie spoke in the unreconstructed, rather shrill, tones of Harrington, well suited for expressionless utterances. "Of course she's lovely."

"Mind you, he's a terrible sham."

"Sorry?"

"At school with Brydan my eye. Oh, they were both at the Grammar right enough, but three years between them. He can't have known him. Well if he did, it means Brydan was taking an interest in boys three years younger, and I've heard a lot of things about him, but that never. You ask Muriel, she'll tell you Peter's the same age as Alun exactly, they were in the same form, and he doesn't remember Brydan at all from then."

"Yeah, well..."

"And evidently according to Peter that 'Alun' business is a lark. 'Alun' it always was at school, Peter said, in the English way. That was before he went in for being a Welshman professionally."

Not many general topics appealed to Sophie, and the question of Wales or being Welsh stood high in her interests. "Oh yes," she said, quite duly enough to have checked anyone less tenacious than Gwen.

"When he came back after the war he'd been out in the great world and discovered the advantages of Welshness."

"For Christ's sake tell me what

they are, Gwen, and I can pass them on to my old man," said Muriel Thomas in her breezy, booming voice as she moved closer. She held a freshly-opened bottle of Soave, just a litre one this time, from which she refilled Gwen's glass. "He seems to think it's about on a par with the brand of Cain."

"I really meant just to appeal to the Saxons, Muriel, you know, the way Brydan used to go on. But actually we were talking about Alun."

"Oh God, were you? I'm afraid here's one Saxon who's managed to resist the appeal of both Brydan and Alun. I'll say no more because I am, after all, a guest in your country."

"You're one of us, darling," said Sophie. This was certainly true in the sense that for all her often-proclaimed Englishness, Muriel conformed closely to a prevalent Welsh physical type with her dark hair and eyes and slender build, a fact often remarked on, at least in Wales. If it occurred to her now she gave no sign. Holding back whatever had been on the tip of her tongue, she said: "My purpose in grabbing you chaps was not to discuss the great Alun but to recruit a rescue expedition for poor Angharad's benefit. La belle Dorothy hath her in thrall."

After a minute the trio began rather carefully to cross the room. The level of atmospheric pollution seemed if anything to have gone up slightly. Drinking rates among the company might have varied but there was a pretty uniform deep commitment to cigarettes, with the smoke from those actually being smoked well backed up by the three or four stubs left in ashtrays but not put out. Empty or forgotten packets and various bits of wrapping littered the rug.

On the rug in front of the lighted gas-fire, a large and elegant appliance with fully simulated coals, sat Dorothy Morgan, who had been on Sophie's doorstep at ten to eleven. At her side stood a half-full 40oz flask of California Pinot Chardonnay and a brimming blue-glass ashtray with the distinction of having two cigarette-ends burning away in it at the same time. She was indeed talking strenuously though not loudly to Angharad Pumphrey, who often had to lean down from her leather armchair to catch the words.

Angharad was not deaf, or no worse than most of them; she was not drunk, not even drinking. What singled her out from those around her was her looks, which were those of a real old lady, though she was not the oldest in years. Part of it came from her clothes — no bright trouser-suits for her — and part her untouched or unretouched hair and the like, but there seemed nothing to be done about her collapsed mouth or the knobby protrusions of jawbone on either side of her chin or the criss-crossed flabbiness round her eyes. There had been talk of a disfiguring illness at some time before she arrived in these parts from Capel Mererid and presumably after she married Garth, but nobody really knew or would tell.

Dorothy Morgan was saying: "But it's not just that, their whole outlook is different, their whole view of life." Her neat short haircut and unadorned black-framed



spectacles gave her a misleading air of intellectual strictness. "You can tell from the structure of their language. Do you know Russian at all? Well, it's full of conjugations and inflections. For instance..."

Meanwhile the arrivals were moving into position in business-like style. Muriel on the arm of the chair, Gwen on a quilted needle-work-box and Sophie squatting on the rug. As they did so they all said hello to Angharad and asked how she was and told her they were glad to see her and she said something to all of them back.

During the last part of this Dorothy rose to her knees and, in a slightly louder voice than before, said: "I was telling Angharad about Russian and how extraordinarily more complicated a language it is than Welsh, and of course English, which means..."

She spoke with an unvarying slight smile and her gaze fixed on some neutral point "... not necessarily more sophisticated than we are, at least not all the time..." It was not known when she slept, because nobody had ever been there to see her departing for bed or, when staying in the same house, come down to breakfast and failed to find her already at the table with a cigarette and most likely a glass of wine. "... very primitive because they drop the verb 'to be' whenever they can. Like Red Indians." She was said to have been found once telling the man who was laying the carpets about eobippus.

Dorothy's heavy-duty mode took an appreciable time to come round from, so that when she paused for a second or two, as she did after the Red Indians, nobody had anything to say at first, until Sophie just scraped in on the last

of the amber by asking to hear about the trip to Leningrad. Not again, surely? Yes, again, insisted Sophie, and very soon she was having the case for going by Aeroflot put to her with undiminished conviction.

Under this covering fire Muriel, Gwen and Angharad were able to withdraw in good order. Standard Dorothy procedure said that when she got into that sort of stride and someone had to sacrifice herself for the sake of the others, then whoever happened to be hostess stepped forward. The punishment seemed to even out pretty well except that on neutral ground, like Dorothy's own establishment, Sophie got landed oftener than her turn. The others would agree rather sheepishly among themselves that she somehow sounded as if she minded it less.

There was no trace at the drinks table of the almost-full litre of Soave Muriel had left on it some minutes earlier. An untouched magnum of Orvieta, however, stood within reach and she set efficiently about opening that, cigarette in mouth, eyes screwed up.

"We haven't seen you here for a long time, Angharad," said Gwen. "No, you haven't, and I wouldn't be here today if I hadn't happened to have to take a clock in for repair at that place in Hatchery Road." Angharad's voice was not old, so much not so that public-utilities men and other strangers still occasionally tried to flirt with her over the telephone. "I bumped into Siân Smith when she was more or less on her way here."

"Of course, it is quite a step from where you are..."

"Yes, and it's not much fun when I get here, either, if this is

anything like a fair sample." "Sorry about old Dorothy. We're sort of used to her, you know. We could see you were stuck."

"I hope I never have the chance of getting used to her. What makes that woman think I want to hear her paltry little observations on Russia or Russian or Russians? Or anything else on God's earth?"

No awareness, let alone appreciation, of having been unstocked showed itself in Angharad. On the contrary, her resentment of Dorothy's conduct seemed to grow when no one looked like offering to excuse it. Closely and with apparent curiosity she had watched Muriel expose and pull the cork of the Orvieta; now, all but incredulously, she followed every detail of its pouring, her own nearly-empty glass held austerely to one side.

People tended to forget about Angharad in the same sort of spirit as they forgot about her husband, whom, by the way, no living person had ever seen in her company, any more than anyone had ever seen the inside of their house. They wondered about the Pumphreys' domestic and marital life quite as much as these coffee-parties as at the Bible.

"Well, that's just how she is," said Gwen, defending Dorothy rather late in the day and without much fervour. "She's always been like it but she's got worse lately. Like everybody else."

"I mean it's not as if I were a great friend of hers," said Angharad, accusingly now. "I

hardly know her. Hardly even spoken to her before."

"You were there, that's enough," said Muriel.

"What sort of a husband does a woman like that have?" Muriel lit another cigarette and said: "Very nice chap, old Percy Morgan. She doesn't do it to him. Not when we're about, anyway. They get on together like a house on fire."

"He's a builder," added Gwen. "A builder..."

"Well, he builds things like town halls," said Muriel.

After studying Muriel's next inhalation of smoke, Angharad returned to her point. "But she wouldn't let me get a word in, not a single word. Not even to tell her how riveting she was being."

"You always get one person like that at this sort of jollification," said Gwen.

Angharad raised her busy eyebrows. "Oh, so that's what it is. Quite frankly, if it stopped short at one person like that I wouldn't mind so much," she said, graciously looking over Gwen's shoulder as she spoke. "I don't mind telling you it'll be quite a time before I come this way again. This sort of jollification, as you call it, quite defeats me. I'd better make my farewells. Where's... where's Sophie?"

The other two watched Angharad take brief, unobtrusive leave of her hostess and, without a glance at Dorothy or anybody else, limp heavily from the room.

"That's what I call mellowing with age," said Muriel, topping up the glasses. "Oh, I'm that thrilled she didn't mind telling us what she told us."

"I thought only beautiful people could behave like that. Poor old

thing, though. She's probably in pain."

"I hope so. It didn't do us any good sticking up for Dorothy."

Gwen screwed up her face. "Not a lot of that, though, was there, actually?"

"Now you mention it, no, there wasn't. It's not much of a defence of a burglar to say he's always been a burglar."

"Perhaps we should have agreed with her about how terrible Dorothy is."

"Then she'd have had it in for us for knowing her. There's no pleasing some people, as you've probably noticed yourself."

A general stir began. Glasses were drained, but not always left empty because there seemed to be a feeling that no opened wine should be allowed to remain undrunk, perhaps out of some old Cymric superstition. Things might have gone differently, or just further in the same direction, if Sophie had broached the 3-litre box of Selected Balkan Riesling on top of the drinks cabinet, whose contents of gin, whisky and other strong liquor were of course perfectly safe from any or all of the party. Two, three women went to say goodbye to Sophie, who was so relieved at being able to speak again that she refused to let them go, at any rate until after she had answered the door-bell.

Siân Smith fell down on her way out but soon got up again and made it into the hall. When Sophie reappeared she had Peter Thomas with her. The sight of him standing alone on the doorstep had been enough to let her know that he had dropped Charlie at the Glendower. Without consulting him, still less offering him a glass of wine, she crossed to the drinks cabinet.

Peter looked rather shaken. After a moment's hesitation he advanced into the room with real reluctance that he tried, late on and not very convincingly, to hide in a comic pretence of reluctance. He and Muriel waved to each other and it was the same or similar with him and Gwen, him and Dorothy, him and a couple of others. Flapping his hand at the smoke-filled air, he said in a hasting tone:

"So this is what all you busy housewives get up to while your men-folk are slacking and boozing their heads off in the pub."

It was not very good, though surely better than nothing, and he had done his best to sound pleasant, and he had sounded quite pleasant, at any rate for him, but nobody seemed to hear much and nobody came over, not even Dorothy, until Sophie brought him a gin and tonic, offering to fetch ice which he forbade. He and she chatted about something, very likely more than one thing, for however long it was before Muriel collected him and took him off. If his shaken look had departed it was in place again by this time.

Of all the guests only Dorothy remained. She would not move before another piece of standard procedure fetched Percy over from Pedwarsant to shift her, probably, though not certainly, by the power of words. There was no standard procedure for that.

Extracted from *The Old Devils*, by Kingsley Amis, published by Hutchinson, £9.95.

Sevens up

Could there be an elite world-wide rugby sevens series in the pipeline? Prince Rainier of Monaco recently announced on French television that a sevens competition is planned for Monte Carlo in May. The observant will see that this is something of a low-key project, since it will clash with the rugby World Cup. But it sets things up for a future series that would tie in with existing competitions in Sydney and Hong Kong. International sevens make one of the most pleasing of sporting occasions, something on which rugby has been slow to capitalize. But it could be very big business indeed... and a further threat to the game's still-clung-to amateur principles.

Ripping

As the Australian boats swish about in the ever more ridiculous America's Cup, vying for a right to defend the trophy, it is panic time among the challengers. When 12-metre yachtsmen panic, they go for the chainsaw. The belief is that if you cut a boat about a bit and then weld it back together again, it must go just a bit faster. Italia II had \$4m/\$35,000 worth of treatment; Azzura IV is next in the queue. Heart of America isn't right either: she's had a load of work done and is likely to need more. Is there anything about this sport that is sane. I wonder?

● An even more famous sporting monstrosity than Nigel Mansell's goes to the starting grid in Adelaide, where the final motor racing grand prix of the season will be held tomorrow. Dennis "there's nothing like a cold tinnie after stuffing the Poms" Lillie will be driving a Ford TX5 turbo in a five-lap celebrity race.

SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

Union bashers

Most rugby league men have little time for the middle-class code of rugby union. But Henderson Gill, the dashing winger who plays for Great Britain against Australia in this afternoon's rugby league international, would love a game of union. "Oh yes," he said. "If I played union I'd never get caught with the ball in my hands." There is the point, of course, that if he played union he'd never get hold of the ball in the first place. In union, wingers are the men in permanently clean shirts who suffer from hypothermia as well as total alienation from their colleagues. It is fun to speculate on the old conundrum of the result of a match

between, say, Great Britain rugby league and the British Lions rugby union teams. Most league men reckon that a league side would beat a union side even under union rules. Such a match has even taken place. In 1944, two teams of servicemen had a go at each other under union rules at Odsal. A rugby league XV beat a rugby union XV, 15-10. Perhaps it is time for the gambit to be thrown down again. Fat chance of it being picked up, I suppose. "A properly promoted charity match against a union XV would be a great idea," said David Howes, the League's press person. "We would relish the challenge."

Pay-ride

Professional jockeys do not normally pay for the privilege of riding horses. But Michael Wigham happily paid £234 for a single ride at Hamilton on Monday. The owner of the horse, Gary Wright, was on what racing people call "the forfeit list" — he owed £234 for such things as entry fees, registration of colours and so forth. An owner on the forfeit list is not permitted to run a horse. So Wigham, who rather fancied his chances with the horse — Millan — stumped up himself. To make the occasion yet more bizarre, he won. "You've got to put in if you want to take it out," Wigham said.

Dons' donna

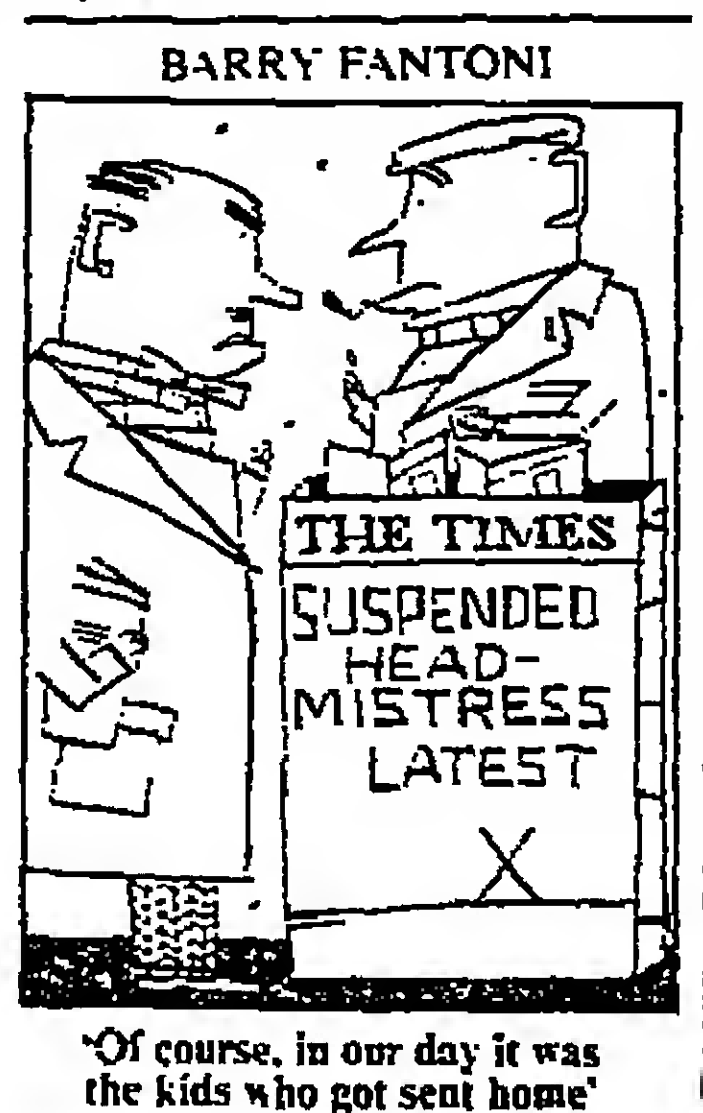
I'm sad to see that Wimbledon are no longer on top of the First Division. No doubt they will take the championship with a good late run. Wimbledon is the sort of club that cheers you up. They are originals in many ways; the only League club, for example, with a female physio. Caroline Broucher, aged 37, has worked as assistant physio with Wimbledon for nearly five years. She did the FA's three-year physio course after being a referee and getting irritated by her helplessness when a player broke a leg in the game she was running. "A football dressing room is no place for a lady," she said.

Thommo talks

Old Australian fast bowlers never fade away. They just bring out their best. Jeff Thomson's *Thommo Declares* is not short on "good-ol'-yer-Thommo" stuff. "England was a hole. No beaches and no wild pigs for me to go hunting. The wild pigs had all been cleared out by the 14th century. I discovered Pom beer. They should be hung for calling that warm stuff beer... I couldn't wait for a crack at the Poms. I thought, stuff that stiff upper lip let's see how stiff it is when it splits."

Big draw

The recent Milanese derby between Inter and Milan was, it is reckoned, the most boring 0-0 draw in history, even by Italian league standards. The two Milan clubs share San Siro stadium. The Inter centre-forward, Sandro Alibelli, summed up: "It was a good point for us. It was up to them to attack — after all they were playing at home."



Of course, in our day it was the kids who got sent home

Peter Brimelow

Saxon echoes from the New England woods

New York

In one of Alfred Duggan's germlike historical novels — I think it was *The Conscience of the King*, about the Saxon conquest of post-Roman Britain — the contemporary popular belief is recorded that the great Forest of the Weald sprang up magically overnight, after the legions were withdrawn.

The full meaning of this haunting folk memory dawned on me only about a year ago. I was tramping the bounds of a weekend property that we had just bought in the hills of north-western Connecticut, about 100 miles from Manhattan. (Or "two hours" as the natives would say — Americans retain the frontier habit of expressing distances in terms of travelling time.) Deep in the woods, buried in undergrowth, I found a drystone wall.

Which is not to say that my property was a bargain. Connecticut is one of the most prosperous states in the Union. The former farmland is prized not for agriculture but ambience, partly because of the purchasing power of refugee Manhattanites like myself.

The amazing thing about trees is how fast they grow. Deciduous saplings in full leaf can block a line of sight in less than five years. Connecticut householders, standing amid woods in which Quiescent Beasts and Arthurian knights might well be lurking, have told me that less than two decades ago they were surrounded by open fields. It is easy to see that, once the Pax Romana ceased to protect Britain's peasants, its cultivated land would rapidly revert to an

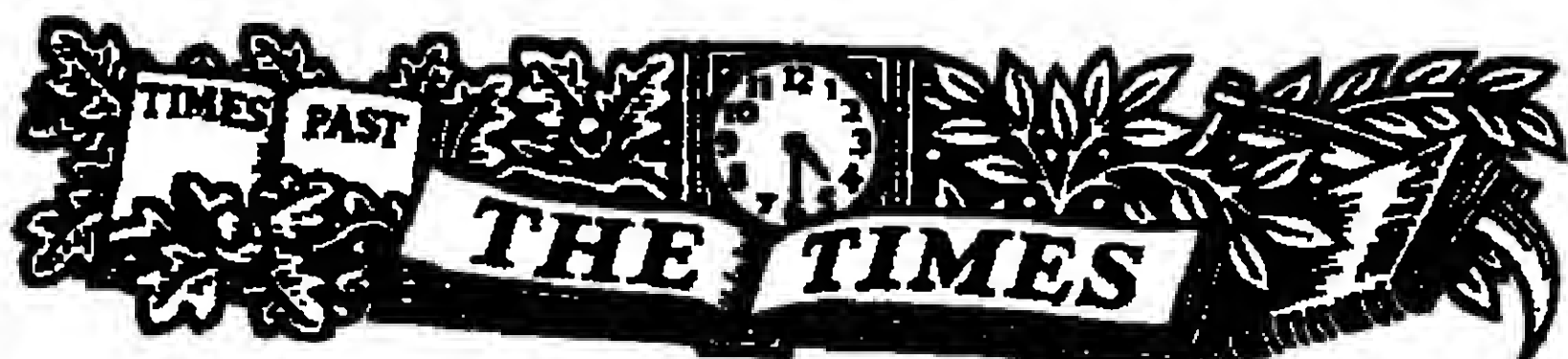
apparently primeval wilderness. Of course, there are regions in Britain where the inexorable forces of agricultural and industrial development have proved, well, exorable. The shipyards of Beaulieu, where the Wooden Walls of England were built, or the medieval sheep boom in Suffolk, which provided the foundation for Dick Whittington's fortune, are only quaint reflections in those tranquil areas today. But usually any such ebbs and flows are swamped by the prolonged surge of British population growth. In the vastness of America — Connecticut, one of the smallest states, is well over half the size of Wales — these eddies are far more visible.

The forests of Britain had been felled by Tudor times, when it became necessary to build cottages and mansions from brick and stone instead of wood. But, incidentally, they are still there, ready to leap up again if the inhabitants pause for a breather of even a few years.

Perhaps because I spent my childhood in the North of England, an area darkened by the factories of the 19th century and then utterly debauched by the sprawling housing developments of the 20th, I find this an oddly comforting thought. Nature is more resilient than we think. It has ways of repairing even the most terrible destruction.

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The author is a senior editor of *Finches magazine*.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ON THIS DAY

OCTOBER 25 1860

The jockeys who defied Admiral Rous must have been courageous or sorely tried. Admiral Henry Rous (1795-1877) was remembered in the Royal Navy for having brought his frigate safely home from Newfoundland to Spithead without rudder and in spite of her leaking two feet of water an hour. After 28 years in the Service he retired and from 1846 is said to have dominated the English Turf until his death. At Newmarket he used to watch races from the bushes, two furlongs from the finish, from where he would spot jockeys who were not trying and below at them as they passed.

SPORTING INTELLIGENCE. NEWMARKET HOUGHTON MEETING. THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE DAY.

The tedious delay which occurred before the horses for the Cambridgeshire were started, and the late hour at which the race was fixed, prevented the gathering from any remarks on Tuesday's running. It was generally agreed that a larger attendance had never been witnessed on the heath, and a better day's racing was certainly never enjoyed, even at Newmarket. Although the weather was mild for the season of the year, the atmosphere was cloudy and occasionally small drizzly rain fell.

The Cambridgeshire never excited more lively interest, and the fluctuations in the betting were most interesting and perplexing. Weatherbound, however, kept her position as first favourite with extraordinary firmness, and all efforts to shake her were futile. Golden Pippin, who had been sent to the "back" owing to a slight advance in the morning to 8 to 1 (taken), and Sir William was backed for such heavy amounts towards the finish that he threatened to be as good as anything, but he subsequently declined to 9 to 1 offered.

After Prentendant, one of the French horses, had won the Fifty Pound Plate, over the Rowley mile, people seemed to awaken to the fact that Mademoiselle de Chantilly by the way of Swales, and not Handicap at Epsom in 1888, might prove dangerous for the Cambridgeshire, and some money was invested in her favour at 50 to 1, and a general rush was made to the new telegraph station, at the "Turn of the Lands", evidently for the purpose of "giving the office" to London commissioners.

29 starters were "telegraphed". Before the horses could be despatched from the post a most vexatious delay occurred. Mr. T. Marshall officiated as starter, and notwithstanding that Admiral Rous (sic) went to the post to add the weight of his authority, several young jockeys (sic) behaved with gross insubordination, and boldly set all command at defiance. The Admiral carefully noted the principal offenders' names and they may have cause to repent their bad conduct, as Lord Coventry intends to bring the matter before the stewards of the Jockey Club. More than half an hour was spent in vain endeavours to get the field off, and Admiral Rous' consultation with the jockeys, Mr. Marshall's shouts to "Go back, all of you!" might have been heard over half the heath. Australian Maid - a notorious brute - was one of the main causes of this provoking waste of time, standing as still as the equestrian statue in front of the Royal Exchange when renewed efforts were made to effect a start. This mare's propensities are so well known that bets of 2 to 1 were offered in the ring on her being left behind against having any race, and the winner was one of those who got away on indifferent terms, but she made up her ground at every yard, and at the site of the Old Duke Stand Contadina, Maggiore, Sir William, Roelsa, and Summerside, who had been in front were beaten. Weatherbound and the French outsider Mademoiselle de Chantilly having a nose between them. After a tremendous "set to", which caused intense excitement in the betting ring, the favourite won by a head only. Heavens, singularly enough, running third, as she had done in the Caesarswitch. Mademoiselle de Chantilly is supposed to be partly the property of the Emperor Napoleon, and it is contemplated by a society of French sportsmen, who will also represent Imperial interests, to have a training establishment in England for international encounters. Maggiore, the American mare, ran well, but had not the heart to finish up the hill. A general belief was expressed that Mademoiselle de Chantilly would have won easily had she been in the hands of an artist, and Fordham, who had no mount in the race, the French party afterwards found to their chagrin, might have been engaged...

Captive audience

From Mr Martin L. Perkins Sir, The OED defines "dunkle" as "to make a dint in". Since your correspondent from Thames Diton (October 20) undoubtedly had his concentration dented it is clear that dunkling was taking place. Perhaps Mr Dunkling was actually bedunkled? Yours faithfully, MARTIN L. PERKINS, 5 Tower Road, Orpington, Kent, October 20.

Making best use of the salmon

From the Director of The Salmon and Trout Association

Sir, Lord Moran's article, "Time to do more for the salmon" (October 22) is both apt and timely. Some amplification is necessary in the context of information on catches.

The salmon caught, by whatever method, are a poor indication of the state of stocks. Catching fish does not tell you much, except by extrapolation and assumption, about the fish which have not been caught, if indeed there are any.

The committee chaired by Lord Hunter in 1963 recognised that the most valuable management tool for the proper exploitation of the salmon was its homing instinct and recommended that cropping should not take place until fish had returned to the rivers from which they had migrated. Thus there is no place in a sound management plan for setting on the high seas, drift netting around the coasts nor for fixed nets outwith esuaries.

Lord Hunter also enunciated the principle that management needs to be based on the counting of the fish once they have returned to their own rivers. Only in this way can the stock level be determined in detail. Rational management decisions can then be made on the sensible and prudent measures which need to be taken to achieve a healthy and abundant stock which will support the many demands made on it.

Thus much more effort and money needs to be spent on developing and installing equipment which will give an accurate count of fish in rivers. Yours sincerely, JAMES FERGUSON, Director, The Salmon and Trout Association, Fishmongers' Hall, London Bridge, EC4.

From the Director of the International Nutrition Foundation Sir, Lord Moran's excellent article emphasises the urgent need for stringent conservation measures, since "It would be tragic if our grandchildren found our rivers empty of salmon because of failure to act now"; but unfortunately the four relevant UK ministries give a low priority to salmon.

Salmon could be one of our most important foods. It, like herring, which used to be a cheap food widely used by the poor, is an excellent source of the type of fat that seems to be effective in

BBC libel case

From Mr J. R. Anderson Sir, The aftermath of the BBC libel action provides at least one topic for comment in the reported statement by Mr Michael Cockerell, the reporter on the Panorama programme in question:

Until last week I had always understood that the BBC would fight this case to the end once it reached the court. Had that happened the jury would have heard all the evidence and reached its verdict. Last Thursday the BBC told me they decided to settle and would not continue with their financial support of me as co-defendant. In these circumstances I agreed to accept the terms of settlement. (The Daily Telegraph, October 22).

The real interest lies in Mr Cockerell's reason for not maintaining a position which by implication he feels justified. If he had continued and the jury had

Housing needs

From Mr K. G. Braidwood Sir, Lord Boyd-Carpenter (October 13) wrongly attributes the disappearance of rented accommodation in the private sector to the "consequence of a good deal of well intentioned rent restriction and landlord and tenant legislation".

What has largely destroyed the market for private rented accommodation is the state subsidy, by way of tax relief on mortgage interest, to owner occupiers. For most of us it is cheaper to buy rather than rent. The Inquiry into British Housing, chaired by his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, makes this abundantly clear.

Ease of access

From Professor Jerry A. Hausman Sir, As I waited in line for 40 minutes on October 19 to have my passport checked at London, Heathrow, I wondered if the Government could privatize this service along with the many other industries and services which are being transferred to the private sector in the UK.

A private immigration service might well schedule its workforce to meet the peak load arrival of jumbo jets each morning from the US. It might also cause the three staff members at the non-US desks

The Church and Aids

From Mr Richard Rhodes James Sir, I was deeply impressed by the compassion and sensitivity of Dr Edward Norman's article on Aids (October 13). It has meant so much to me, a Christian, but I wonder if I could make the following comment.

"Aids is not a unique eliciting of Divine judgement. Like the other evils mentioned by Dr Norman - political murder, social selfishness, personal cruelties - it is the outcome of the failure of God's

More gaoil visits by the judges

From the Chairman of the Board of Visitors of Holloway Prison

Sir, At the time when the prison system is again bursting at the seams, the news (report, October 23) that the Judicial Studies Board is considering increased visits to prisons by circuit judges is welcome and it is hoped that visits to Holloway will commence next month.

The fact remains that no High Court judge, no circuit judge and no recorder has toured Holloway for at least eight years. In August 1983, with the consent of the Governor, this board invited the judges on the South Eastern Circuit and the metropolitan stipendiary magistrates to visit this prison. Not one judge took up the invitation and only six stipendiaries accepted.

I hope that every judge will take up the opportunity of visiting at least one prison to see the conditions in which the staff work and the inmates live. It is not only the prisoners who have to endure indignities such as the stopping-out procedures in male establishments; the prison officers have to oversee.

Many of the prisoners locked in cells for up to 24 hours a day are unconvicted, suffering the tension of the uncertainty of the results of their forthcoming trials. Last week, there were riots at Risley Remand Centre. More serious incidents are predicted elsewhere by experienced governors.

If, as a result of judicial visits, a few people each week are either kept out of the prison system altogether or are given shorter sentences the exercise will have been worth while. Yours faithfully, JEFFREY J. BAYES, Chairman, Board of Visitors, Holloway Prison, Parkhurst Road, Holloway, N7, October 23.

Nuclear deterrence

From Mr Philip Goldenberg Sir, I am delighted to learn (report, October 23) that the Liberal parliamentary party and the Liberal Policy Committee have agreed upon a defence and disarmament policy which is responsible and realistic, and upon the basis of which the Liberal/SDP Alliance - and in particular those of us who are its prospective parliamentary candidates - can fight the next general election with credibility on an issue of such importance.

However, because of what happened at the Eastbourne Liberal Assembly, it is not enough that that policy should simply be endorsed by MPs and a small (albeit representative) committee. This will leave open the question, which our opponents will not hesitate to realise, as to whether this policy is genuinely accepted by the party as a whole.

It is therefore crucially necessary, both as a matter of internal party democracy and by way of authoritative public affirmation, that a special assembly be convened to put beyond doubt the party's unambiguous commitment to Britain's full acceptance of its part in the collective security of Western democracy.

It is equally important, in addition, that at that assembly - as was the case at the 1984 Liberal Assembly - a full-blown and honestly presented unilateralist amendment be put and defeated, so that there can be no doubt, not only that the party is positively committed to a sensible policy, but also that it has exercised the ambivalent ghost of Eastbourne.

In politics, presentation is not only often as important as reality: on occasions it is reality. Yours faithfully, PHILIP GOLDBERG, White Trees, Woking, Surrey, October 23.

Degrees of caring

From Mr Michael Bell Sir, I would wish to reassure Lord Moyne (October 22) that British Telecom's planned introduction of a priority fault-repair service will in no way reduce our current level of maintenance service to customers.

British Telecom's standard fault-repair service, which aims to correct faults by the end of the next working day from the time the fault is reported, will continue unchanged. The cost of this service, which operates from Monday to Friday, is included in the basic rental.

Research, however, has indicated that many customers want more flexibility in our maintenance service than is currently available. We are, therefore, offering them a choice in terms of speed of response and period of cover under our new Servicecare scheme. By paying an additional quarterly premium, faults will be responded to within four working hours, Monday to Saturday (PromptCare option), or within four hours round the clock, seven days a week (TotalCare option).

Currently something like 95 per cent of faults under our StandardCare service are corrected within our target and there is no question of our lowering this quality of service, for which there is no charge. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL BELL, Managing Director, Inland Communications, British Telecommunications plc, 81 Newgate Street, EC1, October 23.

THE SYRIAN CONNECTION

The sentence of forty-five years passed upon Nezar Hindawi for his attempted bombing of an El Al aircraft and the 380 people on board is welcome on two grounds. It reflects the universal feelings of horror and repugnance aroused by his crime and it symbolises a general determination not to surrender either to terrorism or to the fear of reprisals. The aspect of Hindawi's crime that has especially horrified people is what Mr Justice Mars Jones yesterday called a "callous and cruel deception" - namely, his willingness to sacrifice his pregnant girlfriend and unborn child as a means of planting the bomb on the plane.

The popular instinct is sound in regarding this act with particular horror. All the passengers were innocent and all equally deserving of our protection. But Miss Anne Murphy had a powerful and particular claim on Hindawi's affection and his ruthless preparedness to murder her reveals a depth of wickedness which is not easy to grasp.

That wickedness, however, serves to foreclose any softening analysis of Hindawi's crime as merely another incident in a remorseless "cycle of violence". If any general conclusion is to be drawn from this case, it is that terrorists are psychopathic criminals rather than politicians, let alone "misguided idealists", and it is profoundly mistaken to explain their crimes by reference to legitimate grievances or political aspirations.

Such people are, however, sometimes used by politicians in countries like Syria where murder and mass murder are conventional ways of settling disputes. While these methods were confined to domestic politics, the world paid little attention - even passing over such atrocities as President Assad's bombardment of

Hama in which tens of thousands of people were killed.

Western states continued to turn a diplomatic blind eye to Syrian involvement in terrorism when it spread to the Lebanon and even into Western Europe. Thus Britain took no action when two Syrian diplomats blew themselves up with their own car bomb a few years ago. But the revelations in court of the Syrian embassy's cooperation with Hindawi's terrorism were of a different order of blatancy. When diplomats from the Ambassador down provide a terrorist with false documentation, whisk him off to a safe house, try to disguise him and finally help him to escape; they compel the host country to implement some such diplomatic retaliation as the Foreign Secretary, Sir Geoffrey Howe, announced in the Commons yesterday.

This depressing history is nonetheless bound to provoke two questions. Would Syrian intelligence have contemplated a crime of the scale of planting the bomb on an Israeli aircraft at Heathrow if Britain had not previously reacted so nervously to past terrorist activities, both Syrian and Libyan? We must at least suspect that it would not. That leads naturally to the second question: are the measures announced by Sir Geoffrey - essentially, breaking off diplomatic relations with Syria and imposing greater security restrictions upon Syrian Arab Airlines - likely to prove a sufficient deterrent to such officially-sponsored crimes in future?

Sir Geoffrey can argue that, in breaking off diplomatic relations, he took the sterner of two alternative actions. He might merely have declared the Ambassador persona non grata. As he himself argued in the House, however, there was abundant evidence of official Syrian complicity and it would

have been absurd to have held the Ambassador rather than his Government responsible for it. Since diplomatic relations are designed to ameliorate conflicts between states, there is little point in them when they are a cause of such conflicts, still less when they are a means of actually prosecuting them. Until Syria has given clear signs of returning to the usual forms of diplomacy, therefore, the British government would do well to maintain today's distance.

A breach of diplomatic relations, however, is essentially symbolic. Yet an apparent willingness to accept some costs is essential in the struggle against terrorism. It is, after all, because Syria and Libya believed this country would always place its commercial interests in the Middle East before the cause of anti-terrorism that they used their London embassies as terrorist bases. From this standpoint, Sir Geoffrey's failure to close down SAA's London operations and to cut the airline links with Syria entirely is inadequate.

Further steps must therefore be taken. Sir Geoffrey hopes that the United States and the European Community will cooperate in sanctions against Syria. He should launch a vigorous diplomatic campaign to ensure that they do so. Recently, the Soviet Union - Syria's powerful sponsor - has been making discreet noises about opposing terrorism. Let him therefore urge the Soviets to rein in its client. Finally, the Western allies must seriously consult on what positive action can be taken to hunt down and destroy the terrorist groups to which states like Syria and Libya contract out their murders.

If we shrink from such actions, the terrorists and their sponsors will be confirmed in their view that they are dealing with a nation of shopkeepers.

UNITY IS NOT ENOUGH

The Liberal decision in Eastbourne to torpedo the defence agreement between the two leaders of the Alliance has been as damaging for third party politics as was predicted at the time. The Alliance was suddenly proved to be as divided as the old parties it was criticizing.

The Liberals looked like unilateralists, the SDP multilateralists. The split seemed irreversible and the Alliance suffered accordingly. The latest opinion poll which puts Alliance support at seventeen per cent is the worst for Mr Steel and Dr Owen since the formation of the SDP.

The Alliance has to have a united multilateralist defence policy. Dr Owen was right to perceive that he would carry no credibility to say otherwise. Nor, of course, would Mr Steel, which is why his latest efforts to tie his party to the concept of a minimum nuclear deterrent are to be applauded.

So far he has had a remarkably smooth ride. On Tuesday the Policy Committee, which has the constitutional power to override the Liberal conference, voted with Mr Steel to reaffirm the party's intention to maintain a minimum

nuclear deterrent. The following day the Liberal leader won the backing of his parliamentary party. In what must be seen as a personal victory for Mr Steel, Liberal defence policy underwent a complete change within two days.

But there is still a long way to go. Two private meetings, regardless of how important they are, are not going suddenly to reassure the public that the Liberals do, after all, believe in a nuclear deterrent. Conservative Central Office will seize on the fact that hundreds of Liberal activists up and down the country still advocate a form of unilateral disarmament.

The most effective way to dispel these doubts is to call a one day special assembly. The Liberal party would then be faced with the choice to back Mr Steel's new defence policy or reject it again, and risk losing the most consistently popular leader in British politics.

Nor is unity by itself enough. There is also the question of what nuclear deterrent the Alliance is willing to accept. The public can hardly be expected to take very much

on trust any more. The refitting of Polaris for the fourth time cannot be an option. The system is rapidly becoming out of date and any attempt to keep it going at this late stage could well prove to be the most expensive and most inefficient choice available. Not surprisingly Dr Owen has never favoured it and is unlikely to do so now.

There are, indeed, alternatives to Trident by which Britain can remain a nuclear weapon state. But it would be folly to go for a deterrent which excluded the use of the Vickers submarines, the first of which has already been ordered. That is why the extension of Polaris will not do. The Alliance would be wise to strike it off their list.

If Mr Steel can be persuaded to make sure that his options for a replacement to Polaris take account of the Trident programme, and if he can have his position ratified at a special Liberal assembly, the Alliance could be back in business. It is obviously a huge risk, since it would be disastrous for the Alliance if it failed. However, as Dr Owen has said before, to win all you have to be prepared to risk all.

FOURTH LEADER

One damp autumn day Winnie the Pooh woke up knowing that he had something important to tell everyone. But he could not remember what it was, so he decided to call on his friend Piglet to ask him what it might be.

He dressed up warm because his arthritis was bad in the mornings, and stomped stiffly down the garden path, tripping over an empty beer can that someone had thrown over the hedge. "Bother" said Pooh crossly, adjusting his bifocals. But after a while he started to hum a little hum from the latest Andrew Lloyd Webber and was feeling quite cheerful by the time he reached Piglet's house.

Piglet was finishing his breakfast of high-fibre acorns with vitamin-enriched skimmed milk. He had grown a little hard of hearing recently and Pooh had to shout in his ear. But Piglet agreed that if it was something very important he had better try to help Pooh remember what it was. So he reached for his stick and both animals set off to call on Eeyore.

Eeyore, the old grey donkey, had been moved out of his Gloomy Place by the council into a high-rise field kept by an

Animal Rights Society. This had made Eeyore gloomier than ever. But he cheered up on seeing the others and together they went off in search of Kanga.

Kanga, who had just returned from a meeting of the Animal Equal Opportunities Group, lived on her own now since Roo had left to become a Yuppie - which Pooh thought was closely related to a Woolzel if not to an actual Heffalump. So Kanga joined them as they went off to see Rabbit and Owl.

The Hundred Aker Wood had been reduced to fifty akers now by Dutch Elm disease and acid rain, while someone had sprayed "CHELSEA RUBBISH" in white paint on the bridge where they used to play Pooh Sticks. Outside Owl's house there was a board which announced "Colidge of Educaty and Community Educayshun. Prinsipul: Dr. Wol." A young lady owl wearing trousers said sternly that Dr. Owl was busy in his study and was not to be disturbed. But at that moment Owl emerged rubbing his eyes and listened sagely to what they had to say.

"It is clearly a matter on which we must go straight away to Christopher Robin" he said. And so it was that Pooh, Piglet, Eeyore, Kanga, Rabbit and Owl all arrived at Christopher Robin's house together. Christopher Robin was out but on the dining table was a large birthday cake with more candles on it than any of the animals had ever seen. Suddenly Pooh realised what it was he had to tell them. It was his birthday. What he still could not remember was how old he was. So Owl offered to count the candles on the cake by something called binary notation. Half an hour later when Owl had nearly finished, Christopher Robin returned in his Barbour and green wellingtons, and told them after consulting his pocket calculator that Winnie the Pooh was 60 - which, said Owl, was what he made it too. Then they all had a slice of cake - except Piglet because of his diet. Eeyore because of his teeth, Rabbit because of his ulcers, Kanga who never ate anything with animal fats in and Owl who had fallen asleep again. "Silly old bear" said Christopher Robin affectionately. "What would we do without you after all these years?"

Optical embrace coffee morning

S

from the woods



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 24: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips this afternoon opened the new Infant Department Block and Administrative Offices at New Tree Primary School, Aston, Birmingham where Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord Lieutenant for the West Midlands (the Earl of Aylesford).

Dinners
The annual dinner of the Society of Engineers was held last night at Brewers' Hall, Mr Raymond Yarnell, president, accompanied by Mrs Yarnell, presided and presented the Churchill Medal to Dr C. T. Elliott, senior principal scientific officer, Royal Signals and Radar Establishment, Sir Monty Finniston also spoke.

Forty Club
Mr E.W. Swanton, President of the Forty Club, presided at the jubilee dinner held last night at the Hilton hotel and presented the Henry Grierson trophy to C.H. Forward, Captain of Cricket at Canford School. The other speakers were Field Marshal Sir Edwin Bramall, Mr Colin Cowdrey, President of the MCC, Major T.C. Harvey and Mr J.J. Warr.

Association of Lancastrians in London
Lord Shuttleworth, President of the Association of Lancastrians in London, presided at the annual dinner of the association held last night at the Russell Hotel, Mr B. Hill, Chief Executive and Clerk of Lancashire County Council, and the Very Rev Lawrence Jackson, Provost of Blackburn, also spoke.

Association des Anciens Elèves du Lycée Français de Londres
Mme Françoise Manners, President of the Association des Anciens Elèves du Lycée Français Charles de Gaulle-Londres, presided at the annual dinner held last night at the Travellers' Club, M de Saint Do, Headmaster, was among those present.

Institute of Public Relations
Miss Carol Friend, President of the Institute of Public Relations, welcomed the guests at the annual dinner held last night at the Waldorf Hotel, Mr David Bernstein also spoke.

Ampleforth College
On October 10 old boys of St Cuthbert's House, attended Mass at the Church of the Assumption and a dinner afterwards at the Cafe Royal to celebrate the house's diamond jubilee. Father Sebastian Lambert was remembered, and Father Walter Maxwell-Stuart was the guest of honour.

Cartwrights
A dinner was held in Cardiff Castle last night to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of the found-

this afternoon opened the Society's House in Tetbury, Gloucestershire.

Lieutenant-Colonel Brian Anderson was in attendance.
YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
October 24: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman of The British Overseas Trade Board today opened the "Britain in Luxembourg" Exhibition in Luxembourg.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of 32 Squadron Royal Air Force, was attended by Captain Michael Campbell, cameraman.

The Duchess of Kent today opened the Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood Trust's House, Fremantle Square, Bristol, and later opened the Broad Plain Boys' Club, St Pauls, Her Royal Highness, as Patron, this afternoon opened the new extensions to St Peter's Hospice, Bristol.

Her Royal Highness, who travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight, was attended by Mrs Peter Wilmot-Sitwell.

The President of France celebrates his birthday tomorrow.

ing of Cartwrights, solicitors in Cardiff and Bristol. The guests were led by Captain Norman Lloyd Edwards. The guest of honour was Lord Justice Watkins, VC, who proposed a toast to the firm to which the senior partner, Mr John Lither, replied. Among the guests were: Judge Michael Gibson, QC, Recorder (Gloucestershire); Justice Saldaña (Gloucestershire); Justice Fenton, QC, Judge (Circuit Court); Mr Jackson (South Wales); Mr Chairman of Cardiff Bench and Mr Gordon Williams, QC.

Central and South Middlesex Law Society
The annual dinner of the Central and South Middlesex Law Society was held at the Savoy Hotel last night. Mr Andrew Harvey, President, who was accompanied by Mrs Harvey, was in the chair. The guests of honour were: Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls; Mr John Wickerson, President of the Law Society, and Mrs Wickerson and presidents of neighbouring local law societies.

The King of Norway, Colonel-in-Chief of The Green Howards (Alexandra Princess of Wales's Own Yorkshire Regiment), dined with his officers last night at Merchants' Ventures Hall, York, Major-General P. A. Inge, Colonel of the Regiment, presided. The guests were:

The Norwegian Ambassador, Major-General G. L. Guthrie, Brigadier M. H. Luttrell, Mr Terence Gunn, Mr Robert Luff and Mr John Sanderson.

Manx Regiment
Colonel Henry Kelly presided at a reunion dinner held last night at the Naval and Military Club for the Manx Regiment, 15th (OM) LA Regiment R.A. (TA). Sir John Paul was the guest of honour.

Appointments
Latest appointments include: Major-General Martin Garrod to be promoted Lieutenant-General and to be Commandant General Royal Marines, in succession to Lieutenant-General Sir Michael Wilkins, next May.

Michael Sharkey Assisi, a place of peace

This weekend religious leaders from throughout the world are converging on Assisi in order to spend Monday together in prayer and fasting for peace. Pope John Paul II, who suggested this assembly, will be joined by the leaders of other Christian communions and denominations, including the Archbishop of Canterbury, and by Jews and Muslims, Buddhists and Bahais, Sikhs and Hindus, Shintoists and numerous others. Assisi has been a symbol of peace for 800 years since Francis fell in love with God, gave up all his possessions in marriage to Lady Poverty, lived in harmony with all God's creatures, who called the sun his brother and the moon his sister, who preached to birds and converted wolves, and in his happiness of holiness accepted on his own body the wounds of the cross. The tranquility of Assisi and its friendship contrast sharply with the situation of many millions of people in the modern world. They are assaulted by bomb and gun. They shun the light of day and dread the dark of night. They are hunted and are hunted in Iran and Iraq, in and around Lebanon, in Central and South America, in the Philippines, in Northern Ireland, in Sri Lanka, Afghanistan and Africa. The arms race is the industry that booms by alternately balancing and advancing the technologies of terror such that we now have 50,000 nuclear weapons stockpiled around the world with their threat of 50,000 more Hiroshimas. In the face of all this violence and threat of violence, every religion is challenged. The plain fact is that in the contemporary world religion so often seems to be the cause of violence rather than its cure. Knee-cappings and bullets to the head are delivered in Northern Ireland in the name of Jesus Christ. Death squads in Latin America think they are building the Kingdom of God. Muslims make human bombs of themselves and blast their enemies to bits in suicides they think pleasing to Allah. We are daily exposed to the scandal of death in a thousand ways being administered in honour of the God of a thousand names. As part of the inter-religious ceremony on Monday afternoon in Assisi there will be an exchange of olive branches between all the religious leaders. Rabbi and mullah, Roman Catholic bishop and Eastern preacher will reach across to each other with these tokens of peace, and the television news in the evening will bring it into our homes on screens coloured in papal white. Buddhist saffron and Shinto black. If Monday's prayer and fasting does something to change the image of religion, men that will be some small part, but religions must do much more if the message of their leaders is to be any deeper than the television screen on Monday evening or the ink on the page of Tuesday's newspapers. Religion must thaw the pessimism that pervades the hearts and minds of so many people, who think that whether the world began with a big bang or not, it is certainly going to end that way, and that though peace is a beautiful idea, they honestly think it is not possible. This is a deep task. Religion must reach into our very depths in order to revive the springs of hope. Without this conversion, this recall and recovery of humanity, the desire for peace is mere wishful thinking. Hope is made of sterner stuff. Where are we to find it? We know only too well that of ourselves we can do nothing, but with God's help we can do everything. The way ahead does not lie simply in ethical reconsideration and in

political resolve, but by calling on the goodness of God to repair the weakness of men and women, by drawing on the resources of heaven to remedy the evils that beset our earth. Those of us who believe in God know that peace is his gift, and, imploring him for it, we are open to receive it. Goodness is greater than the ugliest evil; love is stronger than the vilest hate; and by prayer and fasting they are brought closer; they resolve what seemed insoluble, find paths where passage was impossible, promote understanding and make forgiveness real. Why God allows evil and suffering in the first place is one of the most profound questions we ask, but the more urgent challenge to religion is not about how our contemporary fires broke out, but about how we can put them out. The prayer and fasting in Assisi will be accompanied and complemented by prayer and fasting by religious groups in Britain and throughout the world. The spiritual movement for peace is gaining momentum. It has a long way to go, but it is awakening the conviction of the possibility of peace, and that together we can accomplish it if God will make us his instruments of it. The Assisi meeting will begin at the 9.30am Mass, the small church rebuilt by St Francis when he first took literally God's call "rebuild my House". Buildings make good symbols. When the Pope visited Coventry in the midst of the Falklands war in 1982 he referred to the cathedral there and urged his congregation to build a "cathedral of peace" in the world. On Monday we shall see the world's religious leaders deepen the foundations of the cathedral. Father Michael Sharkey works in the Vatican and lectures on Newman at the Gregorian University.

OBITUARY LIEUTENANT-GENERAL MICHAEL BRENNAN Poacher turned gamekeeper

Lieutenant-General Michael Brennan, who was Chief of Staff of the Irish Army from 1931 to 1940, died yesterday. He was 90. After becoming a rebel against British rule while still in his teens, he played an important part in the guerrilla warfare that led to the 1921 Anglo-Irish Treaty. In the ensuing civil war, and for the rest of his military career, he was a regular soldier in the service of the legally established government. Michael Brennan was born at Meelick, County Clare, on February 2, 1896. After leaving St. Munchin's College, Limerick, at the age of 14, he led the Finna Boys in Limerick and a few years later was one of the first to join the Irish Volunteers in Limerick City. Early in 1916 he was arrested for a seditious speech delivered to the Volunteers in his native Meelick. Though released soon afterwards, he was arrested again before the events of Easter Week, 1916, and sent (like a more famous Irishman) to Reading Gaol in England, where he remained until Christmas Eve of that year. In 1917 he was arrested yet again and sent to Wetherby in Yorkshire. From there, after three months, he escaped and settled clandestinely in Dublin, until released under amnesty. But he was soon back in gaol for illegal drilling. At his trial he refused to recognize the jurisdiction of the British courts, setting an example which others followed. He took part in hunger strikes in Cork, Mountjoy and Dundalk gaols, before another brief period of release. Most of the year 1918 he spent in gaol, partly at Dundalk and partly in Belfast. But he was released at Christmas and then, from 1919 until the truce, was one of the most wanted men in Ireland. A poster bearing his photograph

and offering a large sum of money for his arrest was circulated among the British security forces. He operated in County Clare, where he was both guerrilla leader, commanding the East Clare brigade and the flying column, and chairman of the republican county council, levying illegal rates and so commanding the sinews of war. In these combined roles he was most effective. After the 1921 Treaty the poacher turned gamekeeper, Brennan joined the regular Free State army, and during the civil war that followed the Treaty he held the Limerick command, giving faithful service to the Cosgrave government and acting, necessarily, as a scourge to some of his former associates. From 1924 to 1925 he was GOC Southern Command, and from 1925 to 1928 adjutant general. He also held the post of inspector general of the forces. In 1931 he was appointed Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces, and the following year gave his allegiance to the newly elected government of Eamon de Valera, who had been on the opposite side in the civil war. This was a significant event in the establishment of constitutional rule in the country. Later during his term of office he took part in the negotiations with the Chamberlain government that resulted in the cessation of the Troubles. In 1939 he accepted Irish neutrality with apparent equanimity. After his retirement from the Army in 1940, still only 46, he was given a senior job in the Office of Public Works. Brennan was a handsome man, of medium height, black-haired in his youth, and with a determined expression. His wife, Bridget, predeceased him, but he is survived by two daughters and a son.

Science report Leech lacking warm waters

By Gareth Hugh Davies
Scientists have long been puzzled by the decline of the once-common medicinal leech, Hirudo medicinalis, throughout Europe. As well as its much prized blood-letting properties, it also served as a primitive barometer; an increase in its activity was believed to foretell the onset of the winter. In Britain the medicinal leech is now confined to the Lake District, the New Forest, Anglesey, and South Wales. Among the reasons advanced for its increasing rarity are a decrease in its host mammals, mainly horses and cattle drinking in open water, and over-collection. Researchers working at a Lake District barn have concluded that it is the loss of the areas of shallow water, which meet its relative, high temperature requirements for swimming, feeding, optimum growth and breeding, which is the chief cause of its population decline. Naturalists believe the leech could soon be an endangered species. Leech is known of the medicinal leech's structure and physiology, but relatively little is known about its life cycle. About seven centimetres (three-and-a-half inches) long, olive green with reddish stripes, it feeds chiefly on the blood of mammals, swimming towards a potential host when it detects the water. Dr William Ellis and Mrs Paula Tallett, of the Freshwater Biological Association's laboratory at Windermere, studied the factors that affect its swimming activity in Jenny Dam, a shallow tarn of 2.54 square metres visited by red deer and horses, in a project financed by the Natural Environment Research Council. During 1982-84 they netted 841 leeches and observed that the creatures became active at 11.9 degrees C (53 degrees Fahrenheit), about 10 per cent of the leeches were active; half were active at 19C (68F), and 90 per cent at 22.7C (73F). They concluded that the temperatures in the lake were ideal for swimming leeches, with a maximum above 19C between the months of April and September. By contrast, in Lake Windermere near by, the monthly mean water temperature has exceeded 19C in only seven out of 47 years up to 1980. The relatively low temperature of this and other lakes explains the absence there of medicinal leeches. But there is evidence that leeches were abundant at the beginning of the last century throughout the Lake District, which was one of the best collecting areas for an extensive European trade in the creatures. Yet leeches are not found in many smaller bodies of water similar in size to Jenny Dam. The researchers put this down to the transformation of many of the small lakes into fish ponds between 50 and 100 years ago, when their depths were increased. Source: Freshwater Biology, 1986, vol 16, 405-415pp, J.M. Ellis and P.A. Tallett.

Birthdays

TODAY: Sir Robert Andrew, 58; Lord Brimelow, 71; Mr Gerald Coke, 79; Dame Mary Colvin, 79; Major-General Sir Rohan Delacombe, 80; Major-General Sir Julian Gascoigne, 83; Mr Martin Gilbert, 50; Mr D. C. Mansel Lewis, 93; Sir John Mayhew-Sanders, 55; Mr Joe Mercer, 52; Dr Ludwig Rosenfeld, 82; Mr George Russell, 51; Professor D. J. Wiseman, 68. TOMORROW: The Viscount of Arbutnot, 62; Mr John Arden, 56; Sir Andrew Carnwarth, 77; Mr Ian Chapman, 61; Sir Percy Cradock, 63; Mr Paul Daneman, 61; Mr R. J. Edwards, 61; Mr Bob Hoskins, 43; Professor D. L. Hughes, 74; Sir Clifford Inniss, 76; Air Marshal Sir Douglas Jackson, 84; Lord Jacobson, 78; Sir Donald MacDougal, 74; Lord Milroy, 68; Viscount Muisirich, CH, 81; Mr Gyorgy Pauk, 50; Lord Scanlon, 73; Sir James Scott, 62; Lord Wylie, QC, 63.

Luncheons

Baroness Phillips
Baroness Phillips was host at a luncheon held yesterday at the House of Lords to present the British Safety Council's Diploma in Safety Management. Mr James Tye, director-general of the council, and Dr Douglas Latta, chairman of the board of governors, also made presentations.

Management Consultancies Association
Mr John Lidstone, chairman, and council members of the Management Consultancies Association were present at a luncheon given for Mr David Michael Dell, Deputy Secretary, Department of Trade and Industry, at the Cavalry and Guards Club held yesterday.

Dr R.K. Cuthbert and Miss A.L. Ford
The engagement is announced between Bill, son of Mr and Mrs P.K. Cuthbert, of San Pedro, Spain, and Alison, daughter of Mr and Mrs H. Ford, of Oakham, Rutland.

Dr S.C.J. Garth and Miss S.T. Bransfield
The engagement is announced between Simon, elder son of Group Captain and Mrs P.A. Garth, of St Alban, South Glamorgan, and Stephanie, only daughter of Mr and Dr P.A. Bransfield, of Bealey, Kent.

Mr R.C. Geary and Miss C.M. Cardwell
The engagement is announced between Richard, son of the late Mr and Mrs R.C. Geary, of South Nutfield, Surrey, and Caroline, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Cardwell, of Purley, Surrey.

Mr N.E.M. Goulder and Miss C.J. Rennie
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, elder son of Dr and Mrs Michael D. Goulder, of King's Heath, Birmingham, and Caroline, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Colin Rennie, of Ashall Leigh, Oxfordshire.

Mr N.M. Keith and Miss G.V. Onslow
The engagement is announced between Nicholas, son of the late Mr and Mrs J.R. Keith, of Geraldine, younger daughter of the late Captain R.T. Onslow, Royal Marines, and Mrs G.V. Onslow, of Westend House, Hambledon, Hampshire.

Science report

Leech lacking warm waters

Scientists have long been puzzled by the decline of the once-common medicinal leech, Hirudo medicinalis, throughout Europe. As well as its much prized blood-letting properties, it also served as a primitive barometer; an increase in its activity was believed to foretell the onset of the winter. In Britain the medicinal leech is now confined to the Lake District, the New Forest, Anglesey, and South Wales. Among the reasons advanced for its increasing rarity are a decrease in its host mammals, mainly horses and cattle drinking in open water, and over-collection. Researchers working at a Lake District barn have concluded that it is the loss of the areas of shallow water, which meet its relative, high temperature requirements for swimming, feeding, optimum growth and breeding, which is the chief cause of its population decline. Naturalists believe the leech could soon be an endangered species. Leech is known of the medicinal leech's structure and physiology, but relatively little is known about its life cycle. About seven centimetres (three-and-a-half inches) long, olive green with reddish stripes, it feeds chiefly on the blood of mammals, swimming towards a potential host when it detects the water. Dr William Ellis and Mrs Paula Tallett, of the Freshwater Biological Association's laboratory at Windermere, studied the factors that affect its swimming activity in Jenny Dam, a shallow tarn of 2.54 square metres visited by red deer and horses, in a project financed by the Natural Environment Research Council. During 1982-84 they netted 841 leeches and observed that the creatures became active at 11.9 degrees C (53 degrees Fahrenheit), about 10 per cent of the leeches were active; half were active at 19C (68F), and 90 per cent at 22.7C (73F). They concluded that the temperatures in the lake were ideal for swimming leeches, with a maximum above 19C between the months of April and September. By contrast, in Lake Windermere near by, the monthly mean water temperature has exceeded 19C in only seven out of 47 years up to 1980. The relatively low temperature of this and other lakes explains the absence there of medicinal leeches. But there is evidence that leeches were abundant at the beginning of the last century throughout the Lake District, which was one of the best collecting areas for an extensive European trade in the creatures. Yet leeches are not found in many smaller bodies of water similar in size to Jenny Dam. The researchers put this down to the transformation of many of the small lakes into fish ponds between 50 and 100 years ago, when their depths were increased. Source: Freshwater Biology, 1986, vol 16, 405-415pp, J.M. Ellis and P.A. Tallett.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr E.J. Anson and Miss S.A. Bullock
The engagement is announced between Ted, son of Alma Anson and the late Charles Anson, of Thames Ditton, Surrey, and Sally, daughter of Mr Bullock and the late Terry Bullock, of Berkswell, Coventry.

Mr J.P. McTeague and Miss L. Duncas
The engagement is announced between Jeremy, only son of Mr and Mrs Neil McTeague, of Glasgow, and the late daughter of Mr and Mrs Neil Duncas, of Johannesburg, South Africa.

Mr R.M. Richards and Miss D.J. Snow
The engagement is announced between Roy, son of the late Mr A.C. Richards, and of Mrs Richards, of Maidenhead, Berkshire, and Debbie, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Snow, of Frampton, Dorset.

Mr S. Thomas and Miss J.P.L. Cseh-Menczer
The engagement is announced between Stephen, elder son of Mr and Mrs P. Thomas, of Llanelly, Wales, and Judith, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs R. Cseh-Menczer, of Brighton, Sussex.

Marriages

Mr H.W. de Burgh and Signorina M.C. Scipino
The marriage took place on Saturday of Mr Hugo de Burgh, of the late Colonel H.G. de Burgh and of Mrs de Burgh, and Signorina Carolina Scipino, daughter of Dottore Tommaso Scipino and Donna Beatrice Scipino Capasso Delle Pastene. Mass was celebrated in the chapel of St John Baptist of the Knights of Rhodes and Malta, Rome, by Cardinal Luigi Ciappi, assisted by Mgr Michele Person.

The bride was given in marriage by her father and the best men were Major Sir Ralph Anstruther of that ilk and Mr Daniel Anstruther, of the same name. A reception was held at the home of the bride.

Mr D.J. May and Miss A.P. Shiel
The marriage took place on Friday, October 17, at Kingsdown, Thames, of Mr David May, son of Mr and Mrs J. May, of Sutton Coldfield, and Miss Anne Shiel, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.J. Shiel, of Balsbridge, Dublin.

Marriages

Mr R.M. Fields and Miss F.C. Harvie-Smith
A service of blessing was held on Saturday, October 11, at the Temple Church, London, after the marriage of Mr R.M. Fields, of Jersey, of Mr Randolph Merritt Fields, son of Mr Gordon Fields, of Los Angeles, United States, and Dr Nancy Gayer, of London, and Miss Fiona Catharine Harvie-Smith, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Robin Harvie-Smith, of Reigate, Surrey.

Mr M.C.W. Vennors-Rowland and Miss J.M.G. Hardey
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 18, at St Mary's Church, Lower Slaughter, Gloucestershire, of Mr Mark Vennors-Rowland and Miss Julia Hardey, Canon A. Barnard officiated, assisted by the Rev P. Walton.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Kate and Emily Gallanau, Katy Walsh and Rebecca Morrison. Mr Tony Morris-Eyton was best man. A reception was held at Fir Farm, Lower Slaughter.

Commander D.C.R. White and Mrs J.P. Silver
The marriage took place on Friday, October 24, quietly in Chichester, between Commander Dennis White, RN (ret'd), and Mrs Jennifer Silver (née Pixley).

Memorial service

Lord Fulton
Sir Denys Wilkinson, Vice-Chancellor of Sussex University, was present at a memorial service for Lord Fulton held yesterday at the Meeting House, Sussex University. The Rev Dr Colin Thompson, university chaplain, officiated and Mr Edward Heath, MP, read the lesson. Dr Ma Lin, Vice-Chancellor of the Chinese University of Hong Kong, read from University Government and the Community, a public lecture given by Lord Fulton. Professor David Dalrymple gave an address.

High price for homely views

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent
Historical prints of what your home town once looked like have a perennial appeal and Sotheby's yesterday sold a set of eight lithographs of Hobart, Tasmania, in 1833 for £7,700, where they had been estimated only £500-£700. Instead of choosing romantic views, Charles Atkinson had depicted "useful and interesting records of the streets of Hobart Town". They are not particularly well drawn. Presumably few sets were sold for this reason, which would explain their rarity. Rarity is what collectors are after, regardless of the quality of drawing. Two coloured aquatints of the City of Victoria, capital of Hong Kong, by J. Prendergast, which were published in 1844 and are now very rare, secured £5,280 (estimate £2,000-£3,000). Australia and Hong Kong enjoy the patronage of particularly rich collectors. At yesterday's sale Greece was up in the same league. The same private collector paid £6,600 (estimate £1,250-£1,500) for Giovanni Boggi's rare set of 24 lithographic portraits of personalities of the Greek revolution and £4,620 (estimate £1,000-£2,000) for 10 etched plates by Gajassi depicting scenes from the Greek revolution published in Rome between 1833 and 1835. not in great demand and the group of topographical prints made a total of £80,157 with 28 per cent left unsold. Richly illustrated natural history books made their familiar high prices though there were few surprises and a couple of expensive unsold lots. Robson's Choix des plus belles fleurs et des plus beaux fruits made £55,000 (estimate £40,000-£50,000) and Maquet's Ornithologia of 1767-1776 with 600 hand coloured engraved plates of strutting, parading and posturing birds imitating the comédie humaine made £41,800 (estimate £40,000-£50,000). The natural history books totalled £400,279 with 13 per cent left unsold.

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Specially selected for Times Readers, these Shetland Fisherman's Sweaters are made from 100% pure wool, spun from the fleeces of the Shetland sheep with the unusual softness and lightness that this yarn is known for. Traditionally produced without seams in the classic style of the Shetland Islands, this high quality knitwear can be worn by either men or women.



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The colour descriptions are those used by the Shetland Islanders and are as follows: Natural (off White), Moorit (brown/black), Sholmit/Moosit (grey/fawn). The sizing is generous to allow room for garments to be worn under the sweaters.

Sizes: Small (to fit chest/bust 36"-38"). Medium (40"-42"). Large (44"-46"). Extra Large (48" plus). Prices: Small/Medium @ £49.95 each Large/Extra Large @ £54.95 each.

Place send me Small/Medium Fisherman's Sweaters @ £49.95 each as indicated below Large/Extra Large Fisherman's Sweaters @ £54.95 each as indicated below.

All prices are inclusive of post and packing. Please allow up to 21 days for delivery. If you are not satisfied we will refund your money without question. In addition to our guarantee you have the benefit of your full VAT refund rights which are not affected. This offer can only be requested to addresses in the U.K. Orders to: The Times Fisherman's Sweater Offer, Bonnie Row, Bealey, Kent, DA5 1BL. Tel: (0322) 53316 for enquiries only.

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THE REV NOEL SCHOFIELD

The Reverend Noel Schofield, who died on October 22 at the age of 86, will be remembered as an effective teacher of the Old Testament. John Noel Schofield was born on December 10, 1899, the son of a Baptist minister. Towards the end of the First World War he served as an observer in the Royal Flying Corps before entering Regent's Park College, London. He then went to Christ's College, Cambridge. He was ordained to the Baptist ministry in 1927, served for two years as Pastor of Bishop's Stortford, and then became a chaplain to the forces. During 1935 he was a tutor at Rawdon College, near Leeds, and the following year was appointed a lecturer in the Department of Hebrew at Leeds University where he later became head of a flourishing department. He returned to Cambridge

in 1946 to lecture in Hebrew and Old Testament studies, remaining until his retirement in 1967. In his later years he was elected a Fellow of Wolfson College. He greatly respected his Cambridge teachers - Canon R. H. Kennett and Stanley Cook - who influenced the archaeological research of the Holy land that is reflected in his most important books. The Historical Background of the Bible (1938), was followed by The Religious Background to the Bible (1944). In 1969 he was elected President of the Society for Old Testament Study. Schofield was generous and enthusiastic as a teacher, and an active preacher with a lively if sometimes disconcerting sense of humour. He is survived by his wife, Winifred, and their two sons and daughter.

MISS BLANCHE SWEET

Miss Blanche Sweet, one of the last surviving stars from the early days of the American film industry, has died at the age of 91. Born, Daphne Wayne in Chicago, she came from a showbusiness family and went on stage for the first time at the age of four. She entered films in 1909 when she was 14 and, joining the Biograph Company, became a leading lady for the outstanding director of the day, D. W. Griffith. Projecting a strong and forceful personality, she appeared in such Griffith films as The Lonelike Operator and the semi-biblical melodrama, Judith of Bethulia, before leaving him to join the Lasky Company in 1915. There, directors included Cecil B. de-

Mille and Marshall Neilan, who in 1922 became her first husband. Her career declined towards the end of the silent period, and after three talking pictures she retired from the screen in 1930. She returned to the theatre, playing in vaudeville and stock, and in 1936 married her frequent stage partner, Raymond Hackett. She made one more film appearance, taking a bit part in the Danny Kaye movie, The Five Pennies, in 1959.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS AND IN MEMORIAM

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes...

BIRTHS

BURLE - On October 19, 1986, to Belinda and John...
CHALONER - On October 18th 1986, a son, James...

MARRIAGES

CALDERAN - PARRY-JONES. On 23rd October, John Calderan to Barbara Parry-Jones.

DEATHS

AGROYD - On October 22, peacefully at home in Slough...
ASTON - On 25th April 1986, at Sunbury Hospital...

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BAKTER - A Memorial Service for Colin Baker, of London and Bermuda...

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

COWELL - In happy and loving memory of Captain Patrick James Cowell...

Services tomorrow

22nd Sunday after Trinity

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL - 8.30 AM. Holy Communion...
ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL - 8.30 AM. Holy Communion...

PERSONAL COLUMNS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

AU PAIR IN AMERICA

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is requested at the opening of 'KISS N' CUDDLE'...

COUNTRY FAIR in Slough

is an exciting and profitable event... featuring live music, dancing and more...

JOHN TIMPSON'S APPEAL

for the purchase of a house in Slough... to provide a home for the elderly...

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cancer

Together we can beat it. We fund over one third of all research into the prevention and cure of cancer in the UK...

Continued from page 15

THEATRES

AMERICAN THEATRE COMPANY - 'THE WEDDING'...
NATIONAL THEATRE - 'THE WEDDING'...

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

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FOR SALE

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FOR SALE

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FOR SALE

THE THREE 1785-1885. Other 12 bottles of The Three 1785-1885...

FOR SALE

THE THREE 1785-1885. Other 12 bottles of The Three 1785-1885...

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FOR SALE

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FOR SALE

REMOVED. Within 4 mile radius of house. 1200 cc, 1200 cc, 1200 cc...

FOR SALE

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FOR SALE

RENTALS

NEW GARDENS Diplomat's apartment. 2 bed, 2 bath, 2 cars. 1200 cc, 1200 cc, 1200 cc...

RENTALS

PUTNEY 1/2 Bm. Lushly furnished. 1200 cc, 1200 cc, 1200 cc...

RENTALS

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RENTALS

DOMESTIC AND CATERING SITUATIONS

WORLD'S LARGEST Au Pair Bureau. 1200 cc, 1200 cc, 1200 cc...

OVERSEAS PROPERTY TO LET

RIVERA GAMBIA Shiny flat for winter. 1200 cc, 1200 cc, 1200 cc...

LEGAL NOTICES

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE. NO. 1200 CC, 1200 CC, 1200 CC...

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was presented to the Court...

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 588 of the Companies Act 1985...

LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Section 588 of the Companies Act 1985...

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BUSINESS AND FINANCE

US calls on West to curb Opec by stockpiling Pound stronger on dollar surge

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1251.6 (+1.7) FT-SE 100 1577.1 (+4.6) Bargains 25605 USM (Datastream) 125.16 (+0.53) THE POUND US Dollar 1.4130 (-0.0105) W German mark 2.8705 (+0.0385) Trade-weighted 67.9 (+0.4)

OT & T in docks plan

Ocean Transport and Trading, which rejected a £258 million bid from the New Zealand financier Mr Ron Brierley this month, is to develop its 8.5-acre former industrial estate at Millwall Dock on the Isle of Dogs, east London, in a joint venture with Roger Malcolm, the housebuilding subsidiary of Bellwinch (writes Judith Huntley).

OT & T expects planning permission by the end of the year and the residential development is due for completion by 1991.

The company says pretax profits of £2 million will come from the scheme next year with similar amounts expected in the years to 1991.

Shops scheme

Prudential Portfolio managers, part of the Prudential Corporation, hopes to join forces with rival developer JT Bayliss & Co to build 575,000 sq ft of out-of-town retailing and leisure at Cribbs Causeway near Bristol, Marks and Spencer and Carrefour are supporting the scheme.

Broker bought

Brown Shipley, the merchant bank, has announced the acquisition of another stockbroker, Scottish-based Stirling Hendry and Co, for £4 million, and has reached provisional agreement to buy St Paul's finance and investment Company.

No agreement

Hong Kong and Canada yesterday talked talks aimed at a new bilateral agreement on the crown colony's textile exports without agreement, a senior trade official said. Progress had been made, he said, but differences remained over export growth.

US share offer

National Westminster Bank is offering shares worth the equivalent of £153 million in the form of American Depository Receipts. The shares, which started trading in New York on Tuesday, are each equal to three ordinary NatWest shares.

BAe posting

The board of British Aerospace has elected Sir Kenneth Durham, one of its non-executive directors, as deputy chairman from October 31.

Addison offer

Addison Consultancy group has declared its offer for Aidcom International unconditional. It will remain open until further notice.

Prices down

The prices of West Germany's imports last month were 21.5 per cent less than a year earlier, according to figures yesterday.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns: STOCK MARKETS, MAIN PRICE CHANGES, INTEREST RATES, CURRENCIES. Lists various market indices and prices.

US calls on West to curb Opec by stockpiling

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

A call for the West to fight Opec's attempt to reassert its authority in the world oil market was made in London yesterday by the United States Energy Secretary, Mr John Herrington.

As Opec's president, speaking at the same oil industry conference, predicted that oil prices could shortly climb to \$18 a barrel, the United States said Western countries should continue to build strategic stocks of oil to blunt the Opec price weapon.

Mr Herrington said the re-establishment of Opec's dominance over production was unhealthy and unacceptable.

He told the Oil and Money conference: "The renewed challenge of Opec needs to be met, but it needs to be met with composure or an increased energy appetite of with government intervention, but with an energy call-to-arms by all nations.

"Today's oil market has clearly shown that programmes to protect our economy in times of disruption need to be continued in earnest. Here the key is strategic stocks.

"Our 500 million barrels of strategic petroleum reserves can put 2.5 million barrels a day on the market at any time. When we reach 750 million barrels we could put 3 million barrels a day on the market, but the US cannot carry this responsibility alone.

"Other countries should be building stocks today. If our allies would match our efforts we could put 6 million barrels a day of oil on the market which would calm even the most serious disruption."

The United States has been critical of Norway's decision to co-operate with Opec in cutting production to support its move to bring supplies back in line with demand and has praised Britain's continued refusal to discuss the matter with Opec.

However, the Norwegian oil minister, Mr Arne Oeien, said yesterday: "The Opec Geneva meeting was an important move towards price stability.

A more permanent system from Opec in December could push the price up to \$18.20 a barrel in the not too distant future."

Mr Oeien is to meet Mr Rilwanu Lukman, the Nigerian oil minister and Opec president, in London today to discuss further co-operation.

However, no meeting has been arranged between Opec and Mr Peter Walker, Britain's Energy Secretary, although the Department of Energy's official view remains that Mr Walker is always prepared to meet fellow energy ministers while they are in London.

Mr Lukman said yesterday that Opec's campaign of pressure on non-member oil exporters such as Britain to co-operate with it is still in force.

Job cuts at Bank of America

Hong Kong (Reuters) - The troubled Bank of America may cut as many as 270 jobs in Hong Kong and Bangkok to reduce costs.

In statements issued simultaneously in Bangkok and Hong Kong yesterday, the bank said it had already cut 61 jobs in Thailand and might lay off 18 per cent of its 1,180 employees in the crown colony by the end of the year.

The bank, which laid off 100 people in Singapore this week, said it might also close some of its 11 branches in Hong Kong.

It said: "We found it imperative to make these changes to focus more clearly on our business strategies.

Bank of America has 80,000 employees in 70 countries. Its parent, BankAmerica Corporation, is the second largest bank holding company in the US.

The bank lost \$23 million (£16 million) in the third quarter of this year after a \$640 million second-quarter deficit.

Mr Samuel Armacost, the chief executive, was replaced this month by Mr AW "Tom" Clausen, former president of the World Bank, amid speculation about the bank's future.

Prices down

The prices of West Germany's imports last month were 21.5 per cent less than a year earlier, according to figures yesterday.

It is obviously impossible for me to say there won't be a rival bid but in view of the price we already own that seems doubtful. Our bid will

create an engineering company with sales of £100 million a year in growing and important markets.

Woodhead is one of the leading manufacturers of vehicle suspensions for cars and lorries with an expanding stake in the replacement market, employing 1,550 people. A new management team has turned the company round; last year it made a pretax profit of £1.13 million after a previous loss of £1.18 million.

Carlo is offering five of its own shares for every 22 Woodhead, valuing them at 109p, with a cash alternative of 99p. Carlo's shares rose 5p to 96p yesterday.

Carlo in £16.1m bid for Jonas Woodhead

By Cliff Feltham

Carlo Engineering Group, the Huddersfield manufacturer of car clutch and brake cables, has made a £16.1 million agreed bid for Jonas Woodhead & Sons, the Yorkshire engineering group.

Carlo owns 24 per cent of Jonas Woodhead, largely acquired this year from Mr Ron Brierley, the New Zealand businessman.

Mr John Ewart, Carlo's chairman, last night shrugged off the possibility of a counter bid.

Mr Peter Brooke, Minister of State at the Treasury, said that action would be taken in next year's Finance Bill after consultations.

Mr Brooke said: "Each of the changes would represent a significant simplification of and reduction in the administrative burden on small businesses."

Customs and Excise was clearly anxious to show it cared.

Mr Peter Trevett, from the VAT control directorate, said: "This shows perhaps that we are more open-minded than we are usually given credit for. The idea is to help while not

Pound stronger on dollar surge

By Rodney Lord Economics Editor

A stronger trend in sterling appeared yesterday to vindicate, for the time being, the Government's decision to stand out against a second rise in interest rates.

The pound ended a rather happier week with a strong rise against the mark achieved largely on the coat-tails of a firmer dollar.

Sterling's rise made the likelihood of another rise in rates, such as was widely predicted at the end of last week, still more remote.

In the interbank market, three-month money, regarded as one of the bedrocks, eased by 1/4 of a point to 11 1/4 per cent, bringing it back to a level only fractionally higher than bank base rates.

Sterling closed about 3 1/2 pence higher at DM2.8707



Robin Leigh-Pemberton Less pressure for rates rise.

Thursday, but the suggestion by the Governor of the Bank of England, Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton, that targets for the broad measure of the money supply should be abandoned, seems to have been calmly received.

Most of the interest in foreign exchange markets focused on the dollar rate against the Japanese yen. In early trading the dollar surged upwards on strong buying by Japanese institutions.

By midday the dollar stood at Y161.80 after a start of Y160.85. And against the mark the dollar was quoted at 2.0255, compared with a rate of 2.0240 at the opening. At mid-morning a wave of selling pressure hit the dollar, which may have been prompted by intervention by the Bank of Japan, which has seen the yen depreciate steadily this week. But after falling sharply the

dollar recovered; its London close was still well up on the day.

The American currency was supported by better-than-expected figures for output of durable goods and by President Reagan's comments that the economy looked as if it were heading for a boom.

Most dealers see the Reagan Administration continuing to emphasize the rosy side of the economy, thereby boosting the dollar, until Congressional elections on November 4.

Once the election is out of the way, US pressure on its trading partners to help cut its enormous trade deficit is likely to emerge.

Elsewhere in the foreign exchange market, the Irish punt was steady, with an increase in the short-term lending rate by the Central Bank of Ireland from 12 per cent to 13 1/4 per cent.

Reuters offer \$92m for Instinet

By Lawrence Lever

Reuters, the international business information group, announced yesterday a \$92 million (£64 million) offer for the Instinet Corporation of New York, the suppliers of an equities computerized dealing system.

The move, which Instinet executives said came as a complete surprise, could lead to Reuters developing a rival to the Stock Exchange's SEAO system.

At the moment Instinet, which will itself become a member of the Stock Exchange on Monday, has only 12 subscribers outside the 450 which it has in the US.

In the first nine months of this year Instinet had a trading loss of \$1.53 million on operating revenues of \$11.39 million. The \$92 million Reuters offer is 3.6 times the book value of Instinet's assets.

Reuters is offering \$7.25 cash or \$7.25 worth of its American Depository Receipts per Instinet share which at Thursday's closing price in New York stood at \$5.25.

Last year Reuters purchased a 6.6 per cent stake in Instinet, together with an option to take its stake up to 28 per cent.

Reuters also already has an agreement entitling it to market the Instinet system outside the US.

Yesterday's offer was contained in a letter handed to Mr Bill Lupien, the Instinet chairman, by Mr Glen Renfrew, the managing director of Reuters.

Mr Renfrew said in his letter that the purchase would be in line with Reuters' strategy of "assembling a comprehensive package of securities services on a single work station."

Hoare Govett in £1bn consortium

By Richard Thomson, Banking Correspondent

Hoare Govett, one of the City's largest stockbrokers, is to take charge of several hundred million pounds of equity underwriting capital.

This follows an agreement, signed yesterday, to set up a consortium with five leading institutions.

This deal and a similar arrangement by Cazenove made in September, add huge resources to the equity underwriting capacity of the City's new financial institutions.

Like the Cazenove deal, the syndicate of institutions has agreed to back the broker's underwriting activities by advancing capital to Hoare Govett to be used on a discretionary basis.

The broker will be able to call on total underwriting resources of up to £1 billion. Any amount above the discretionary limit will have to be used in consultation with other syndicate members.

Hoare Govett said it had reached, in principle, an agreement with the institutions to form the syndicate as early as next summer.

Mr Stewart Douglas-Mann, a managing director of Hoare Govett, said the broker's parent company, Security Pacific, was constrained by US banking regulations and could not put up more than a small amount of capital for underwriting. But he added: "There are wider benefits from the deal. The consortium has more resources than Security Pacific or most US investment banks."

The Hoare Govett and Cazenove syndicates have, in a few weeks, swelled the capital of financial institutions for equity underwriting. The arrangements enable the brokers to offer the same range of services as merchant banks. But the resources of syndicate

£1bn issue surprise for dealers

By Graham Searjeant Financial Editor

Gilt-edged dealers celebrating their last day on the Stock Exchange floor were caught in mid-conga yesterday afternoon when the Government Broker announced a surprise new issue of stock.

The £1 billion convertible issue is the biggest single gilt-edged stock raised since March and follows a heavy public sector borrowing requirement last month.

The terms of the five-year Treasury Convertible recognize the recent rise in interest rates. The stock carries an interest coupon of 10 per cent and will be sold by tender on Wednesday at a minimum price of £96.25 per £100 nominal, of which £40 is payable immediately and the rest in one month's time.

It is repayable in 1991 but may be converted (at £102 per £100) into a 9.5 per cent stock redeemable in 2001 or (at £105 per £100) into a 9 per cent stock dated redeemable in 2011. Such double-headed convertibles are unusual but are seen by the Bank of England as making the stock more attractive by giving investors more options.

It also gave gilt-edged analysts some headaches yesterday as they struggled to enter the details of such a complex issue into their new electronic systems.

Unlike the issue of 16 tapers a fortnight ago, this issue is not specifically geared to Big Bang. But it is tax free in the hands of non-residents, giving dealers plenty of stock to sell to foreigners attracted into the new market.

The Bank regards the issue as a sign of confidence in the stability of the gilt-edged market. Prices have steadied after the rise in short-term rates.

Big differences in impact of cheap oil

Brussels (Reuters) - Motorists and householders in some European Economic Community countries have hardly benefited from the steep fall in the price of crude oil this year.

Mr Nicolas Mosar, the Community's Energy Commissioner, said yesterday.

In answer to a written question from a Member of the European Parliament, Mr Mosar published figures showing retail oil product prices for the period when the cost of crude was falling.

His analysis shows that in Denmark, petrol, diesel, heating oil and heavy fuel oil prices rose in the four months

to May 15 this year, during which time the price of crude virtually halved to \$14 a barrel.

Motorists in Greece and Portugal saw only a minimal fall in costs, with cuts of 4 and 3 per cent respectively in the price of regular-grade petrol.

But petrol prices in West Germany fell 23 per cent, in Luxembourg 19 per cent, in Belgium 16 per cent and in Britain 15 per cent.

While heating oil prices rose 13 per cent in Denmark, they fell 32 per cent in both Belgium and Ireland.

Revolution in the City

On Monday the Stock Exchange enters the new world of alpha, beta, gamma and delta stocks, market-makers, primary dealers and bought deals.

The Times marks Big Bang with a 16-page survey of the changes in City practices and what they mean to professional and private investors.

On Tuesday we shall highlight the alpha stocks as part of an extended coverage of the market. And because of the extra significance of the range of prices in which shares are bought and sold, we will quote both bid and offer (buying and selling) prices in our daily list of SE prices.

Changing face of VAT man

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

The VAT man, often seen by small businesses as one of their greater scourges, presented a new and caring face yesterday with proposals to ease the burden on small businesses.

One of the proposals put forward in a Customs and Excise discussion paper was the option of a cash-based system and annual instead of quarterly returns.

Mr Peter Brooke, Minister of State at the Treasury, said that action would be taken in next year's Finance Bill after consultations.

Oppenheimer 24 months of performance to 1st October. Table with columns: Trust, Percentage increase in value, Position and total number in sector. Lists various trusts and their performance.

WALL STREET

Modest rise in Dow

New York (Reuters) - Share prices added modestly to Thursday's broad advance despite some mild declines in the bond market in early trading yesterday. High technology issues, particularly computers and semiconductors, pulled ahead while stocks associated with takeover talk continued to trade actively. After advancing nearly 27 points on Thursday on improved economic figures, the Dow Jones industrial average added another 2.67 to 1837.60. The transport indicator edged up 0.12 to 829.50 while the utilities average slipped 0.51 to 201.64. The broader Standard & Poor's 500-share index showed a slight gain of 0.08 at 239.36 while the New York Stock Exchange composite index edged up 0.05 to 137.81. Advancing and declining issues were about even on a volume of 15 million shares.

Table with columns for stock symbols (e.g., AMR, ASA, Allied Signal) and their corresponding prices and changes.

Table with columns for 'First Dealings' and 'Last Dealings' with corresponding stock symbols and prices.

TRADITIONAL OFFERS

Large table listing various financial products, funds, and offers with columns for 'Bid', 'Offer', 'Chng', and 'Ytd'.

£41m FR rights issue

COMPANY NEWS

The Dorset-based FR Group, which makes equipment for the aircraft, energy and electronics industries, reports higher interim results and plans for a £41.72 million (gross) rights issue. Turnover rose from £37.02 million to £46.08 million in the first half of this year, while pretax profit expanded from £5.93 million to £7.15 million. The interim dividend is being lifted to 1.35p, compared with 1.12p last time, adjusted for the one-for-five strip issue in June. Earnings per share rose from 7.4p, adjusted, to 7.95p. The rights issue will be on a one-for-four basis at 285p a share.

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

Table titled 'STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES' showing market rates for various currencies like the US Dollar, Japanese Yen, and others.

OTHER STERLING RATES

Table showing exchange rates for various countries including Australia, Argentina, and others.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

Table showing spot rates for various currencies like the Swiss Franc, French Franc, and others.

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Table showing futures prices for three-month sterling, three-month eurodollar, and US treasury bonds.

GOVETT STRATEGIC INVESTMENT TRUST

GOVETT STRATEGIC INVESTMENT TRUST: Total dividend raised to 3.8p (3.6p) for the year to Sept 30. Gross revenue £11.8 million (£8.3 million). Available for dividends £3.97 million (£2.59 million). Earnings per share 4.01p (3.63p).

MONEY MARKET AND GOLD

Discount Market Loans %: 11 Low 9% (1.52p). Net asset value per ordinary share, after deducting prior charges at par, 112.30p (78.4p) and at market value, 114.3p (79.8p).

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Table showing interest rates for various Euro money deposits and local authority deposits.

TREASURY BILLS

Table showing yields for various Treasury bills.

ECGD

Fixed Rate Sterling Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for 100% September 3, 4.88% to October 7, 1986 inclusive, 10.35% per cent.

RECENT ISSUES

Table listing recent issues of equities, including companies like Anglo Secs, Local Lon Co, and others.

LONDON TRADED OPTIONS

Large table showing option prices for various stocks and indices, including columns for 'Series', 'Call', and 'Put'.

UNIT LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

Large table listing unit-linked insurance investments across various categories like 'General Insurance', 'Life Insurance', and 'Pension Funds'.

Vertical text on the right edge of the page, including 'Offices dearest Tokyo' and 'London'.

Offices dearest in Tokyo

By Judith Huntley
Commercial
Property Correspondent

Tokyo is now the most expensive office location in the world, outstripping even the City of London which is seeing a dire shortage of space and soaring rents because of Big Bang.

The cost of occupying office space in Tokyo's central business district, Marunouchi, is £76 a sq ft compared with £63.25 in the City, according to a survey by Weatherall Green & Smith, the firm of surveyors.

The largest rise in office costs, excluding currency movements, has been in the West End of London where financial corporations, which would traditionally be in the Square Mile, have been taking large amounts of space after being unable to find what they want in the City. Total costs in the West End are £47 a sq ft, a 15 per cent rise on last year.

The City of London has seen an unprecedented boom in the demand for large offices able to offer very big dealing rooms and to accommodate the electronics needed for 24-hour trading. Rents have risen from £30 a sq ft to £40 a sq ft. There is estimated to be a demand for 10 million sq ft of offices in the City, far outstripping supply.

It is now almost impossible to find a building of more than 50,000 sq ft and developers are rushing in with schemes to take advantage of the bull market.

Japan shares for Reuters screen service

By Lawrence Lever

Reuters, the business information group, yesterday announced it had agreed with the Tokyo Stock Exchange to display prices for more than 2,500 Japanese shares and bonds on its monitor service from Monday.

The shares include the 1,565 most actively traded shares on the Tokyo Stock Exchange.

The price information will be direct feed - coming straight from the TSE and the six regional Japanese exchanges encompassed in the agreement, rather than via a third party. The prices will be indicative rather than firm dealing prices.

Until now Reuters has displayed delayed price information on the prices of 900 TSE stocks.

The Osaka Stock Exchange, the second largest in Japan, is not included in the service, but its prices are expected to be available in the service from early next year.

Hambro buys Deltatouch

Hambro Countrywide, the country's largest estate agency, yesterday bought the entire share capital of Deltatouch. This gives it total control of Mann & Co's Bournemouth partnership, which made taxable profits of £400,000 in the year to May. The value of the deal is £5.2 million.

Mann & Co's Bournemouth partnership expects to make pretax profits of not less than £1.73 million in the three years from June 1 1985. It has forecast profits of at least £600,000 for the year which started June 1 1986.

Arlington in buyout

Arlington Securities, the recently floated business parks developer 11 per cent owned by Mr Robert Maxwell, has issued 1.80 million shares to buy out a 20 per cent interest in its 123-acre Birmingham Business Park partnership.

Arlington, with a 67.5 per cent interest, says the issue will not adversely affect this year's earnings per share. More shares may be issued, and Arlington plan to buy another 20 per cent.

Dividend up

British Assets Trust, which is based in Edinburgh, has declared a fourth quarterly dividend of 0.575p for the year to September 30 last. It will be paid on January 7. This raises the year's total from an adjusted 1.78p to 2.05p. Pretax revenue expanded from £10.88 million to £12.64 million.

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Dealers banking on bid of £1.2bn for Pilkington

By Michael Clark and Carol Leonard

It may have been the end of an era for the stock market yesterday, but it was still business as usual for the speculators with all the hot money riding on that long-awaited bid next account for Pilkington Bros.

On a day when the market's thoughts were focused on Monday's Big Bang extravaganza, the 20p rise in the price of Pilkington, to equal its high for the year of 503p, was bound to attract attention. One big buyer was known to be on the prowl, stripping the market bare of remaining stock. He is known to have paid 512p for more than 500,000 shares and to have bid other marketmakers for stock at even higher levels.

Pilkington has attracted more than its fair share of bid speculation in recent weeks, with Rio Tinto-Zinc and BTR both mentioned as possible suitors. Dealers have also not ruled out a bid from across the Atlantic from one of the big American industrialists.

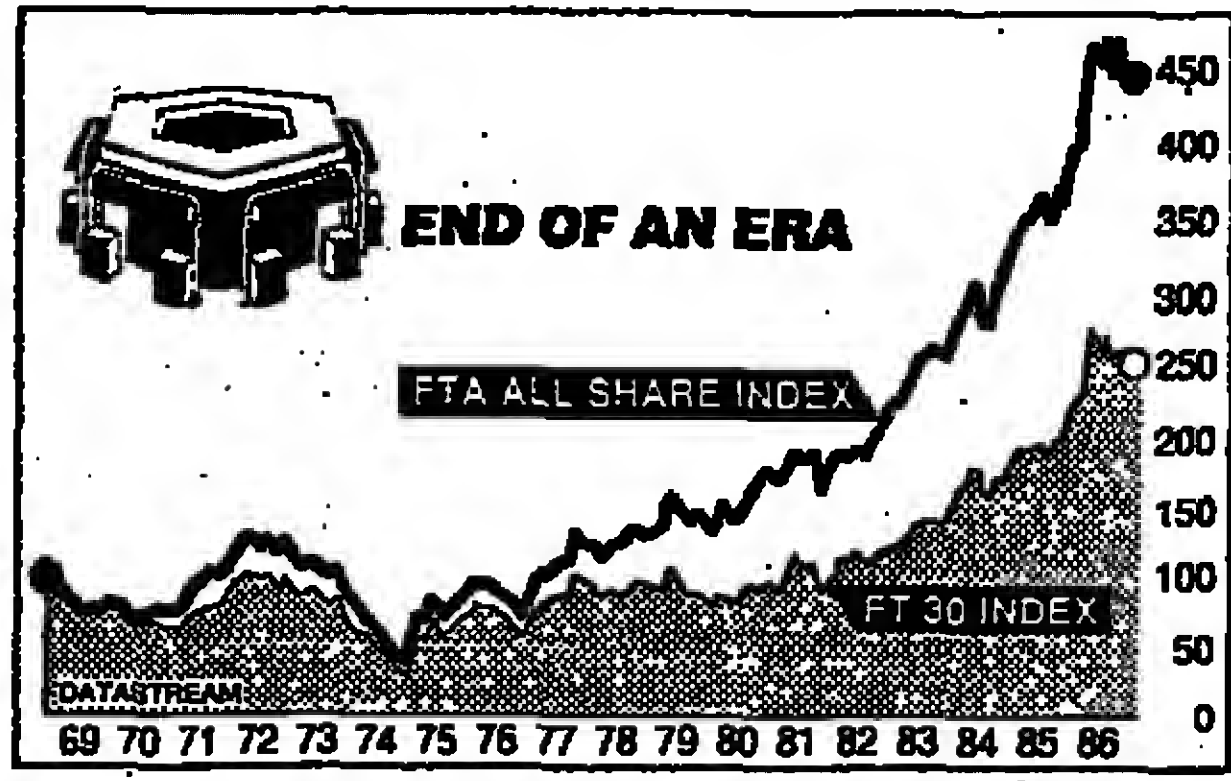
Last account, the shares were trading at about the 440p

level before a tour by analysts of the group's activities in the US. Since then, they have enjoyed unreserved support from leading brokers like Hoare Govett and have shrugged off all bouts of profit-taking. One confident dealer estimated yesterday: "The price tells all, it looks as though a bid is on the way."

Dealers are confidently talking of an opening bid of 570p a share, valuing the glass manufacturer at £1.2 billion.

But the Pilkington board is likely to put up a fierce defence and defensive acquisitions have not been ruled out. In the past few months the group's name has been linked with United Scientific Holdings, the maker of the Alvis armoured car. Despite the flurry of activity in Pilkington, shares of USH slipped 3p to 135p but could come in for renewed support next week.

The rest of the equity market took a back-seat to the "end of an era" celebrations



on the floor of the Exchange and in the boxes around it. Volume was only marginally up on the previous day, as some dealers attempted to balance their books ahead of Monday.

The FT 30 Share index touched 1,251.1 at 1 pm, a rise of 1.2 and remained more or less unchanged throughout the afternoon, as dealing ground to a virtual halt. Several firms closed their pitches early and others did not open at all. By the close the FT 30 index was up 1.7 at 1,251.6. The broader-based FT-SE 100 index followed a similar pattern, closing 4.6 higher at 1,577.1.

Gifts ended the day as much as £40 better and the Treasury used the opportunity to issue a £1 billion tranche of 10 per cent Treasury convertible stock, 1991, with £40 payable on tender and the balance on November 24. The minimum tender price will be £96.25.

Among the leaders, Glaxo lost 10p to 920p, GKN 9p to 247p, Tate & Lyle 8p to 543p and ICI 5p to 1,072p. British Telecom firmed 4p to 184p and Allied-Lyons a couple of pence to 293p.

Stake-building speculation was still good for companies such as Blue Circle Industries and Sears, both firm markets recently on the antipodean influence. Blue Circle advanced another 15p to 623p, with the market convinced that the Adelaide Steamship Company is continuing to buy shares. Some dealers claim it may now hold just under 5 per cent of the equity and are expecting an announcement shortly. Blue Circle has been a dull market in recent months, dogged by cheerless profit expectations and cheap-cement imports from Greece.

Analysts maintain that the group, still 100p below its peak, is vulnerable to a bid. But the sceptics claim that the Australians are just trading in the shares and do not have the financial muscle to launch a full bid for Blue Circle, which is still capitalized at about £750 million.

Sears' share price has also been making the most of

this week, the group announced that it was positioning its interim figures (to July) for a week. The market is worried that the group has run into difficulties with several large overseas contracts.

BBA Group, the fast-growing automotive parts manufacturer, was a gloomy market, falling by 19p to 142p - just 11p above its low for the year - after a downgrading of profits by Cazenove, the broker. Cazenove was said to have been a big seller of the shares.

Jonas Woodhead firmed 5p to 96p following an agreed bid from Carlo Engineering, which already has a 24.1 per cent stake in the company. Carlo is offering five of its own shares for every 22 Woodhead shares. The deal values Woodhead at 109.1p a share.

Composite insurers had another good day on hopes of good third-quarter results next month. Royal Insurance and General Accident both put on 15p to 844p and 834p respectively, while Sun Alliance gained 12p to 714p. Guardian Royal 10p to 829p and Trade Indemnity 10p to 215p.

Dee Corporation came under renewed selling pressure, down another 2p to 201p. The company was quick to knock down a suggestion that its auditors are planning to take a critical look at its accounting procedures. The suggestion appears to spring from a circular from the Liverpool broker. Finance which looked closely at some retailers' auditing policies.

Some life companies were lifted with them. Refuge went 8p higher to 418p, the Pru 7p to 764p and Pearl 5p to 1,468p.

Banks saw some activity with the partly-paid TSB shares firming just 4p to 81p. Institutions are expected to begin buying the stock next week when their dealing costs will be lower. Lloyds gained 7p to 409p, Barclays 5p to 464p and Standard Chartered 5p to 764p.

Oils, however, painted a different picture, losing ground on the realization that oil prices are not going to return to \$18 a barrel in the near future. Shell fell furthest, dropping 13p to 898p. BP lost 12p to 646p. British 5p to 130p and I C Gas 2p to 568p.

Rascal, the electronics and communications group, went up 6p to 166p on talk that it might soon be announcing a commercial tie-up with a foreign firm.

COMMENT

British Gas: a case of convincing Aunt Ada

The British Gas pathfinder prospectus looks set to appear next Friday. And so begins the mammoth share sale which more than any privatization to date will prove a test of Britain's appetite for wider share ownership. It is one thing to package up a company like British Telecom in high-tech finery and sell it as a growth industry. But quite another to persuade Aunt Ada that the boring old gas board is a sure-fire home for her meagre savings.

There will be those who will regard the whole exercise in much the same light as a flutter on the 3.30 at Kempton Park - but with infinitely better odds. TSB has a lot to answer for. There will be those who are tempted by the perks that will accompany the offer. But for the rest of us the prospectus will be fairly short on answers to some key questions.

In a sense, British Gas falls foul of one of the cardinal conventions of a new issue; that the company is allowed to make a forecast for the current year, since it is supposed to be able to plan that far ahead, but not for the accounting period that follows.

For that reason, the real interest lies in what is not in the prospectus. Certainly profits in the current year will be nothing to write home about. Some analysts expect a fall at the operating level, though it is more probable that there will be a very modest increase in the £1 billion or so

of last year's historic-cost profits.

Though they will not be told on Friday, every would-be British Gas investor needs to know that, other things being equal, there will be a sharp bounce in profits for the year to March 1988. This arises from the way the complex price fixing arrangement, are made between the producers who contract to supply British Gas with gas for anything up to a year ahead and the way these are related to oil prices. Suffice it to say that the benefits to British Gas from the low oil prices of this year will principally flow through to the bottom line next year.

That should lead to an increase of between 20 and 30 per cent in operating profits in the next financial year. If the institutional investors get the message, that should augur well for the flotation. By comparison with the benchmarks for British investors, Shell and BP, British Gas will be making high-speed progress. Our two oil majors will show something like a 25 per cent fall in profits between 1985 and 1987.

Overseas investors, more familiar with investing in utilities like British Gas, will like the look of the high yield and ample dividend-paying capacity that will be apparent even from the pathfinder prospectus. If someone can get it across, even Aunt Ada would buy that.

Barclay twins face a fight

The mysterious Barclay twins have run into heavy weather with their £750 million bid for the Imperial Continental Gas. You might have thought there would be a rush to take profits in any stock that has been the subject of persistent takeover rumour and as soon as the bidder showed his hand. Especially, as in the case of I C Gas, when the profits are handsome.

Since the start of the year, the shares have climbed with barely a pause for breath from 300p to more than 500p.

Yet when the Barclay-controlled Gulf Resources emerged with an offer worth 530p in cash, the I C Gas share price raced even further ahead. It remains stubbornly out of their reach, closing last night at 568p, and the market clearly scents a competitive bidder in the wings. Yesterday afternoon there was talk of a counterbid next week in the region of 625p a share.

That looks a stiff valuation and could only be justified by a company willing to put a high price on the potential and the brand name of Calor Gas, the prime asset of I C Gas.

For the brokers who analyse the oil and gas sector, a valuation of more than £6 a share looks on the rich side. But the Barclay brothers have done their homework thoroughly. And

more particularly, so have the eight banks which participated in the £670 million loan facility to finance the bulk of the bid cost.

So the market is probably right to assume that there is headroom in the calculations and that the first offer from Gulf is a sighting shot. The Barclays appear to rival the legendary Howard Hughes when it comes to divulging details of their business. But from what little is known of their purchase of Ellerman Lines, they are no slouches at turning round a business.

There were roughly 30 potential buyers for Ellerman and one by one they backed off after considering the daunting task of turning round the group's shipping interests. The Barclays not only outbid the rest of the pack, but they sorted out Ellerman's shipping interests well enough to satisfy both the banks and the shipping management who later put together a leveraged buyout.

The Barclays appear to have well laid plans for selling off I C Gas's other assets and revitalizing Calor. But they may not get a chance without a fight.

John Bell
City Editor

TEMPUS

Tomkins' outlook healthy despite sickly share price

FH Tomkins' share price has been looking a bit sick since early last month, but it is not altogether clear why. It is unlikely that Pegler-Hattersley is to blame, despite wildly optimistic forecasts made in the heat of the takeover battle last May. Then, it forecast a 19.3 per cent jump in its pretax profits to £21.6 million for the year to March 29.

It is not uncommon during bids for companies to refine their accounting policies and FH Tomkins claimed at the time that "bid-inspired" profits had been added into this forecast. So Tomkins was not surprised when Pegler made just £19 million for that year. After all, it had been averaging only £18 million for the preceding four years.

But, under Tomkins' ownership, it has been improving its performance markedly.

One of Tomkins' first acts was to close Pegler-Hattersley's head office, saving £1 million in central overheads. All but two of Pegler's directors have now left the company.

Tomkins has also reduced Pegler's working capital by several million pounds, increasing cash balances and pushing up interest income.

The underlying businesses have also stepped up their performances and should improve their profits by more than £2 million this year. This is being done in the traditional Tomkins manner by instituting tight financial

controls and introducing performance-related bonus schemes for the management. Consequently, FH Tomkins looks likely to raise pretax profits to £28.5 million for the year to end-April 1987 to give earnings per share of 20p.

Over the last five years, Tomkins' earnings have grown at 35 per cent a year. If it makes this year's forecast, it will have grown at 40 per cent a year for the last six years.

Yet the price has sunk to 273p, putting the shares on a prospective p/e multiple of only 13.5. They are now standing at their lowest prospective and historic multiple for the last two years.

With cash balances of £23 million, no net debt and net assets of more than £110 million, a rocky share price will not stop Tomkins from making acquisitions - but it will pay in cash rather than in shares.

Asda-MFI

Sir Noel Stockdale, chairman of Asda-MFI, held his farewell lunch for City analysts and journalists yesterday at the Savoy. He retires after Wednesday's annual meeting.

Although Sir Noel could not resist a final dig at stockbrokers, who are now going to learn all about price wars having plagued Sir Noel with questions about them

for years, relations between the company and the City are most harmonious.

After underperforming the market since the merger of Associated Dairies and MFI in April last year, the shares have recently been re-rated.

The underperformance was most marked at the end of July, when the company announced flat profit figures for the year to the end of April.

The last three months have seen a steady climb from lows at 126p a share to a high at 170p this week. Analysts have been quietly marking up their estimates of this year's profits to around £190 million compared with £166.4 million last year.

The prospective p/e ratio has crept up to nearly 15. It is still short of the other grocers, like J Sainsbury and Tesco, but the gap is narrowing.

The new emphasis of the group - on own-label and fresh foods in supermarkets and on lighting and household textiles in MFI - will continue, as will the push south geographically.

There may be some changes of style in the team of Derek Hunt as chief executive and David Donne as non-executive chairman. A greater stress will be put on forward planning, so that the group no longer reacts to events but anticipates them. There may also be some pruning at head office level.

APPOINTMENTS

Mainmet Holdings: Mr George C Towler becomes chairman and Mr Eric Smith joint managing director.
Phicom: Mr Dattuk Choo Ching Hwa has been made chairman, Mr S A Swinden and Mr C R Kimber join the board.
Benchmark Group: Mr Peter Bendall and Mr Martin Forman join the board. Benchmark Trust, and Mr James Campbell becomes associate director. Mr Nicholas Ellis, Mr Michael Jerrard, Miss Jane Keane and Mr John Shulman have been made associate directors, Benchmark Factors.

Purnell Book Production: Mr Jim Myers becomes managing director.
TWIL: Mr Ronald S Hamilton has been made deputy chief executive and director. Mr David Young joins the board.
Midland Bank: Mr J Christopher Wathen becomes card products director from November 1, resigning banking. Mr Robert L Wyatt becomes chairman and chief executive. Forward Trust Group, from January 1. New regional directors of retail management centres from January 1 are: Mr R E Challiner, City and West End, Mr Peter S.

Grainger London South, Mr David W Baker, East Midlands, Mr John D Massey, London North, Mr K W Rigby, North East, Mr John B Willett. Greater London, (commercial banking) from January 1.
Arthur Young: Mr Laurence Bard, Mr Peter Curtis, Mr Kim Hayward, Mr David Howard, Mr Ian Hunter, Mr Mark Molyneux, Mr Mark Palfrey, Mr Andrew Pollock, Mr John Readman, Mr Ashok Shah and Mr Colin Warner join the partnership.
Bush & Rennie - International: Mr Jorgen Nissen, Mr David Gordon and Mr

David Whitteaton join the board.
Provincial Trust: Mr Robert J Hollinshead becomes financial director.
Seascope Insurance Holdings: Mr Jeremy Lees becomes deputy chairman, Seascope Reinsurance Brokers.
National Economic Development Office: Mr Ian McDonald has been made a director and Mr Bryan Quilter a non-executive director.
Guinness Mahon Holdings: Mr Stephen R Hill has been made managing director, Guinness Mahon Development Capital.

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Savings plans that move at your own chosen speed.

To reach your shorter-term objectives, Multivestor's high-performance, tax-efficient 10-year savings plans are very hard to beat. And like every plan in the portfolio, you can get moving by investing as little as £25 a month.

To cruise towards your longer-term goals, Multivestor's plans include a wealth of options and bonuses. And the rewards can arrive in your hands totally tax free.

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Main table containing unit trust information with columns for fund names, managers, and performance metrics. Includes sub-sections like 'ASSET MANAGEMENT MANAGERS', 'GENERAL INVESTMENT MANAGERS', etc.

UNLISTED SECURITIES table with columns for company name, price, change, and percentage change.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS table with columns for trust name, price, change, and percentage change. Includes sub-sections for 'COMMODITIES' and 'FINANCIAL TRUSTS'.

The prices in this section refer to Thursday's trading. Ex dividend, ex cum dividend, ex cum split, ex cum split & ex cum dividend, ex cum split & ex cum dividend & ex cum split & ex cum dividend.

Portfolio Gold

From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If you are a winner you will be one of the 100 daily prize money stated. If you are a loser you will be one of the 100 daily prize money stated. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Gains or Losses. Lists various companies like Aus New Z, Behlman, English China Clay, etc.

Please be sure to take account of any minus signs. Weekly Dividend. Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £8,000 in today's newspaper.

Table with columns: MON, TUE, WED, THU, FRI, SAT, SUN, Weekly Total. Shows weekly dividend breakdown.

BRITISH FUNDS

Table with columns: High, Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists funds like 1986 High Low, 1985 High Low, etc.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, 1985 High Low, 1984 High Low, 1983 High Low, 1982 High Low, 1981 High Low, 1980 High Low. Lists various funds.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, 1985 High Low, 1984 High Low, 1983 High Low, 1982 High Low, 1981 High Low, 1980 High Low. Lists various funds.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, 1985 High Low, 1984 High Low, 1983 High Low, 1982 High Low, 1981 High Low, 1980 High Low. Lists various funds.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, 1985 High Low, 1984 High Low, 1983 High Low, 1982 High Low, 1981 High Low, 1980 High Low. Lists various funds.

STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES. Confident end to the account

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began on October 13. Dealings ended yesterday. Contango day Monday. Settlement day November 3. Forward bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies like ABB, ABB, ABB, etc.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under BREWERIES.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under BUILDINGS AND ROADS.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under FINANCE AND LAND.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under FOODS.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under CHEMICALS, PLASTICS.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under CINEMAS AND TV.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under DRAPERY AND STORES.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under INDUSTRIALS A-D.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under HOTELS AND CATERERS.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under MOTOR VEHICLES.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under SHIPBUILDING.

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Portfolio Gold

DAILY DIVIDEND £8,000. WEEKLY DIVIDEND £8,000. Claims required for +32 points. Claims required for +175 points. Claimants should ring 0254-53272.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies like ABB, ABB, ABB, etc.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under OVERSEAS TRADERS.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under PAPER, PRINTING, ADVERT'G.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under LEISURE.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under MINING.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under PROPERTY.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under SHIPPING.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under SHOES AND LEATHER.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under TEXTILES.

Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under TOBACCOS.

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Table with columns: 1986 High Low, Company, Price, Change, % P/E. Lists companies under TOBACCOS.

© Ex dividend. Ex all B forecast dividend. Ex interim forecast passed. F price at settlement. G dividend and yield include a special payment. P pre-emptive figures. N payment savings. Ex other. Ex rights. Ex scrip or share split. Tax-free. No significant data.

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After October 27th, as the echoes fade, the U.K. financial community will find itself adjusting to its new circumstances.

Some firms will find the new competitive environment unfamiliar. Some will need to spend time putting their houses in order. Others will have to ease themselves into new relationships, adapt to new situations, and live under new labels.

Meanwhile, corporate financial officers and professional investors will be asking the question: "Which of the many new financial services groups will be the best equipped to serve our needs from now on?"

Merrill Lynch, more than any other, is already

experienced in operating in truly competitive dual capacity markets, internationally, under a variety of regulatory frameworks. We are one firm for which globalisation and 24-hour trading is a genuine, working reality.

In London we are a leading market-maker in gilts, U.K. and International equities, and Euro securities of all sorts. We are a key force in the sterling and Euro commercial paper markets and as such a major supplier of short term finance to companies, banks and governments world wide.

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Our financial strength and international experience are committed to our domestic and cross-border merger and acquisition service.

Internationally our research is acknowledged as the best there is.

How can corporate and institutional market users benefit from all the changes?

Our capital, experience, commitment and advice are available after October 27th, as they were before, to clients who want the comfort of dealing with an investment banking group already accustomed to the new market environment.

At Merrill Lynch we won't hear much of the bang; because for us it'll be business as usual.



The sale that is a little in the air

PRIVATIZATION

The Transport Secretary John Moore confirmed this week that British Airways is coming up for sale, probably next January.

The Government hopes to raise about £1 billion from the issue, but will there be an appetite for the shares? What sort of shape will the stock market be in by January? These are some of the factors the organizers must address.

The issue will certainly attract the small investor. No commercials are yet being screened, but viewers will have noticed the aggressive television campaign to boost BA's public standing. There are, of course, good reasons for BA to be proud of itself. Edinburgh-based stockbrokers Wood Mackenzie claim with some justification that BA's efficiency and profitability have been dramatically improved.

But the airline business is a game for cut-throats. Competition for major routes is fierce and is only partly regulated by a favourably disposed (but of course totally neutral) government licensing department. Even with improved efficiency, and the neatly streamlined and cheaper new pension scheme for some of the staff, it is still difficult for airlines to make money from flying on many - principally domestic - routes.

But for private investors, the sale will follow what promises to be a reasonably successful British Gas flotation, and the taste of the TSB premium will still be tickling the back of their throats.

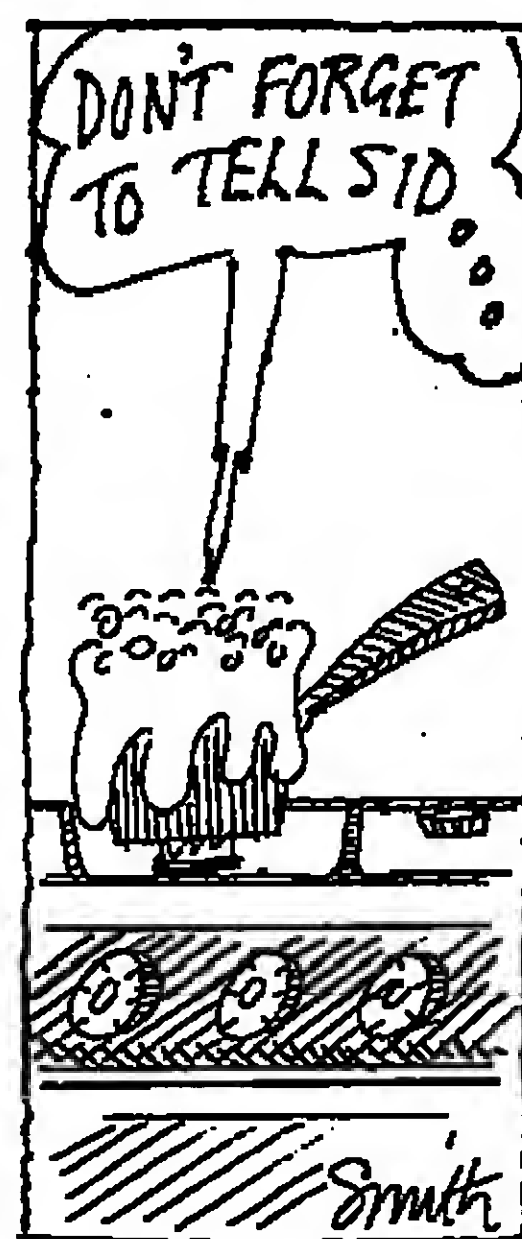
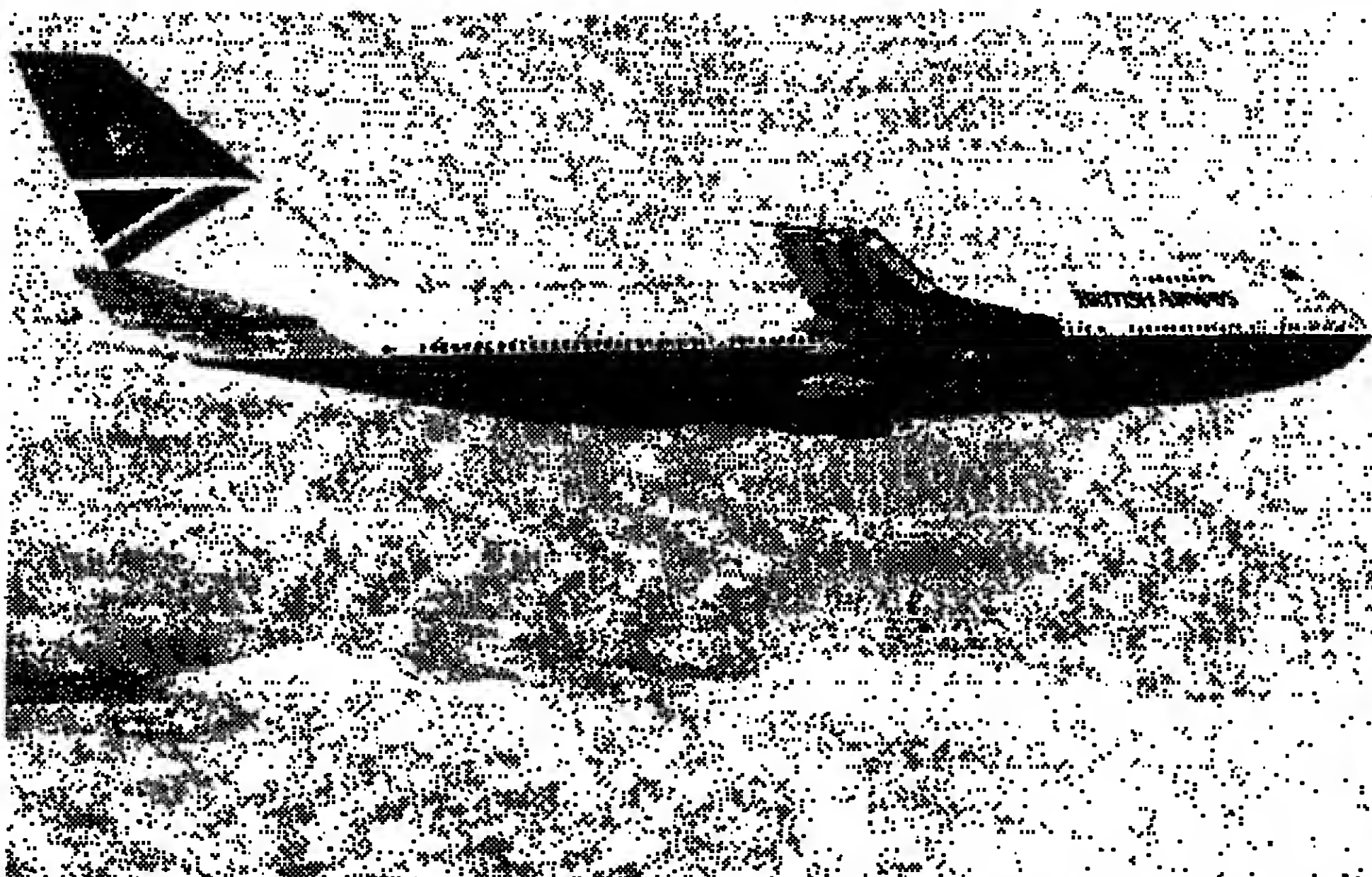
Jeremy Lewis, of stockbrokers Seymour Pierce, says: "The success of the previous issue dictates the terms of the next. There is reasonable hope that Gas will go well, given a fair wind. But more of a question mark hangs over BA."

The BA issue will have what are now the standard trappings of a privatization. Payment will be in two easy instalments, and there will be a loyalty bonus for initial buyers who retain their holding for three years. Subscribers will receive one new share for every 10 up to a maximum of £5,000 worth of initial purchase.

BA staff will enjoy favourable terms similar to those offered in the British Gas sale. Every employee will get £95 worth of shares free plus two free shares for every one purchased up to £150. Staff purchases of up to £2,000 will attract a 10 per cent discount.

Best of all, though, will be the price of the issue. Privatizations carry virtually a guarantee of success because of their political value. Michael Beaumont, a stockbroker with Kleinwort Grieveson, says: "The shares will have to be attractively priced. BA could be the last major privatization before the election, and the Government simply cannot afford to allow a privatization to founder."

That inability to countenance failure may already have worked a major change in public perception. The glamour of privatization may make people shut their eyes to the risks of share investment. Mr Lewis thinks there definitely is such a thing as a



Selling is going ahead: prospects for British Airways are slightly uncertain, but British Gas has always looked a winner

Telecom factor. "Just look at the TSB's success. It was a smaller issue than BT, and in many ways less attractive, but the opening premium was higher and the hype was massive."

If that is the case, the question of whether the share markets in general hold up is far less important. The sponsors of every new issue, even a privatization, want the company to come to the market when demand for shares generally is strong. If investors, particularly big institutional ones, do not want shares, the issue may fail for want of buyers. The privatization campaign may have guaranteed a base of small investors no matter what the state of the market.

Even if there is a solid base of interest from the small investor, a falling market and a hangover from the annual Christmas binge might reduce enthusiasm significantly. And, of course, we may not have a lot of money to spare after the £6 billion British Gas sale.

Mr Moore stressed this week that the issue was very different from Telecom and British Gas. But whatever the commercial differences, the fundamental similarity will be there - the Government wants to expand the base of share ownership, and the one million subscribers the bankers to the issue would like to attract will almost certainly be looking at a premium.

Martin Baker

10,000 an hour who want to buy

BRITISH GAS

More than five million people have registered their interest in next month's sale of British Gas. We are told inquiries are coming in at the rate of 10,000 an hour.

The mailshot to customers is now finished - if you are one of the 16.25 million with a metered supply in your name you have until November 14 to register yourself as a priority applicant with a guarantee of £250 worth of British Gas shares.

Customers can fill in the cards they should have received from the company, or log their interest at a British Gas showroom.

Some people have managed to do both, and a process of "de-duplication" is in process. This serves not only to keep the British Gas computer system working, but enables the organizers of the issue to obtain a clearer picture of exactly how many individuals really are interested in shares.

De-duplication also serves to identify anyone who might have been considering a multiple application.

The British Gas issue looks set to provide the "serious" (that is, quite rich and prepared to spend) private investor with a bigger piece of the action than British Telecom, Britoil or the Trustee Savings Bank sales.

Those who write cheques for substantial sums can expect to

see a large percentage returned as share capital rather than cash.

The smaller investor can expect to do well too. The talk is of "an absolute commitment not to ballot" behind the scenes. Everyone who applies in good faith, including the ubiquitous Sid from the latest string of commercials, looks certain to receive at least some shares.

The prospects for British Gas do not really depend on the former time for oil to emerge from this week's meeting of the Opec countries. The company generates a lot of cash, which is especially attractive when interest rates are so high, and it has the glamour of a privatization.

Although many City brokers and investment analysts do not like to think so, there is a Telecom factor to privatizations.

More and more people seem to believe that a government-backed issue cannot fail to make money for them. And this belief is a strong prop to the success of the issue: if everyone believes British Gas is attractive, then it really is a good buy.

Next up for sale is British Airways - a totally different proposition. If the organizers of British Gas have their way the public will have precious little money left to spend on the largest item in the January sales.

With over 950 unit trusts to choose from, where on earth do you begin?

HERE

The high returns shown by many unit trusts have made them extremely popular. It's also made them extremely numerous: there are over 950 available at the latest count.

If you're not an expert, how do you know which one will best suit your needs?

That's where GRE comes in. With our investment experience since 1920 and our excellent record (as any financial adviser will bear out) we're ideally placed to help you. Below, you will find a carefully balanced selection of unit trusts, offering, we believe, something for everyone.

If you'd like to invest with us, you can do so for under £700 in most of our trusts. Just let us know roughly what you have in mind when you return the coupon and help will be on its way.

- Please send me details of
- Guardian Trusts. For long-term growth of capital and income from UK equities.
 - GRE Gilts & Fixed Interest Trusts. Secure income together with capital appreciation opportunities.
 - GRE North American Trusts. Long-term capital growth and a stake in the world's biggest economy.
 - GRE Pacific Trusts. Covering Japan, Australia & S.E. Asia, this is for long-term capital growth.
 - GRE Smaller Companies Trusts. For an above-average rate of capital return over the longer term.
 - GRE Property Share Trusts. A specialist fund of carefully selected property shares.
 - GRE Growth Equity Trusts. For capital growth from a mainly UK portfolio of equities.
 - GRE European Trusts. For long-term capital growth from European equities.

(Or) I have £_____ to invest and am looking for secure income, long-term capital growth, long-term growth of capital and income.

Name _____
Address _____
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To: Guardian Royal Exchange Unit Managers Limited, Royal Exchange, London EC3V 3LS. (Member of the Unit Trust Association)

UNIT TRUSTS

The mounting monthly bill

MORTGAGES

Next month most home-owners will be paying higher mortgage bills. Everyone knew it would happen sooner or later after bank base rates went up to support a slithering pound. Round one of the inevitable occurred when the Halifax, Abbey National and other societies announced increases in their mortgage rates to take effect from November 1.

The higher rates will make a substantial difference to the cost of living. Abbey National borrowers with a repayment mortgage of £30,000 can expect to pay out an extra £19.71 per month after tax relief, while a similar loan with the Halifax will now cost £17.89 more. The discrepancy is largely accounted for by the fact that the Abbey raised its rates by 1.375 per cent, as opposed to the Halifax's 1.25 per cent.

If you have a mortgage of more than £30,000 you are not automatically entitled to tax relief at source, although some societies do operate this system.

The increase in monthly payments for a £40,000 repayment mortgage with the Halifax is £36.59. The new rates will bite hard on bigger borrowers unless their local tax offices have changed their income tax coding to accommodate the lack of relief at source.

Along with these big debtors, those who will suffer the most are the first-time buyers, or anyone who is really stretched by a mortgage commitment. For these people fluctuating interest rates can be a budgeting nightmare.

But there is a way out. Some lenders offer a scheme whereby payments are fixed, even though the interest charged actually fluctuates. Most schemes work this way. The lender works out what it believes the average level of interest rates will be over the year. It then sets a rate which will not change throughout that period. If interest rates have been higher than expected the lender will take into account the extra money owed in setting a new rate for the following year. If rates have been lower than expected the

borrower's credit will push the new yearly rate a little lower.

The Halifax has a budget scheme, and took pains to point out this week that those who had taken up the scheme would have no more to pay next month. The first change for budget borrowers will be in April when the society adjusts its rate.

But most of the society's 1.5 million borrowers have floating rate mortgages. Apart from the budgeting difficulties interest swings can cause, it costs more than £250,000 to inform home-owners of a change in rates. That cost has to be passed on to members.

The Yorkshire Building Society has gone as far as making loans on the budget principle the society's standard. Borrowers must specifically request to be left out of the scheme. The "vast majority" of the Yorkshire's half-million borrowers make fixed monthly payments. They must be wondering what all this week's fuss has been about.

MB

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- Pensions for the Self-Employed.
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- Alternative Investment ideas - Property, Wine, Antiques, Precious Metals.
- Is Investing in commodities worth considering?
- Wills - do you have one - is it financially sound?
- Using new technology to make more profits.
- Is PEP Management a business to be in?
- How to raise working capital.
- Equipment Financing - how to do it?
- Stock market Flotations - full listing/USM/third market.
- Business and Personal Insurance - whose is best.
- How Employee Share Option Schemes work?
- Management Buyouts/Partnership Break-ups - what to do.
- The Financial Services Bill and its impact.
- Can you improve your cash management.
- How to choose your Stockbroker.
- Finance and the married woman.

30th Oct
2nd Nov

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Value of Pension Fund over 10 years to 1st April 1986.
Assumes 120 monthly premiums of £100 Amount Invested (Allowing for tax relief at 30%)
Sources: Money Management, August 1986

- Target soars head and shoulders above all rivals in the pensions field ●●
- Target Managed is unquestionably the Steve Crain of investment performance ●●
- Indeed the best performing contract in the survey was linked to Target's Managed Fund ●●
- Prize for the most outstanding performance of the decade must still go to Target Managed ●●

What it doesn't show, however, is that the Target Plan has out-performed all other personal pension plans over the last ten years. What's more, only the Target plan provides you with a guaranteed loanback facility* enabling you to draw on your investment whenever you like, with no additional management charges.

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Now listen to this: advice for two visitors at last year's show

All you ever wanted to know about finance

The financial circus is coming to town again.

See the amazing pin-striped insurance salesman. Hear the loquacious unit trust adviser. Marvel at the interest rate juggler from the building society. And hold your breath for the extraordinary Revenue-defying feats of the BES virtuoso.

Yes, folks - it's time to turn your financial confusion into even greater financial confusion as you wander ever more bedazzled from one plausible bit of advice to another, quite different but equally plausible, bit of advice.

Then when day is done, stagger home under the weight of two large plastic bags full of colour brochures that menace you with graph lines going this way, and that, percentages, quartiles, APRs and SRGs.

Sounds like a nightmare? You bet. And if you're not careful that is the effect Money '86 could have on you. But that is not the intention of the organizers or the exhibitors. So here we explain what to look



More specialized exhibitors include the Bell Savings Bank of Philadelphia which claims to be "the only US bank actively marketing dollar accounts to the smaller UK investor" and the independent investment manager Desmond Simpson, who is charmingly described in the show guide as "quite human and very easy to talk to".

Money '86 has all the buzz of the Motor Show but none of the vroom. Like all the best ideas, it is simple in concept. Sell exhibition space to a wide range of financial concerns, get the public along and let them talk together.

Where else in the space of a morning or afternoon visit could you find out what you want to know from Barclays, Commercial Union, M&G, Sun Alliance and more than 200 others of your choice?

It's a golden opportunity to ask all those questions that you thought, wrongly, everyone knew the answers to except you.

You can ask your questions either informally by collaring a representative of the firm of your choice, or in a more public forum at one of several seminars which will be held on every one of the four days.

The seminars are free and topics range from "Investment for Beginners" and "How to Invest on the Stock Exchange" to "How charts can help you make money from floating exchange rates". Every morning the Unit Trust Association is running a session called "Unit trusts: all your questions answered".

The purpose of this session is to allow visitors to brush up on their knowledge before visiting some of the many organizations offering advice on unit trusts at the show.

More specialized investments are explored in "Are fine wines and fine art investment alternatives?" and "The futures market for the private investor".

People approaching retirement should find the seminar "Financial planning for retirement" of particular interest. This session is timed to start at 10am every day, an hour before the show opens. Visitors for this seminar should go to a special entrance to the National Hall at the corner of Hammersmith Road and Olympia Way and should arrive early as it was crowded every day last year. Entry to all the seminars is subject to availability of space.

Apart from the seminars which are of particular interest

to private investors, others are aimed at businessmen and financial intermediaries.

The show's managing director, Richard Copley-Smith, says: "We have tried to create seminars to reflect visitors' differing degrees of sophistication about investment."

Understandably, some organizations are using Money '86 to promote particular products and services. The Unit Trust Association, in conjunction with Money Magazine, will be launching a new publication entitled Everything you need to know about unit trusts.

There is a good deal of emphasis on technology. National Westminster, which is installing touch-sensitive screens in 250 of its branches to streamline the marketing and processing of financial services, will demonstrate the equipment. An initial application of the system could be share transactions at branches with the terminal printing a contract note and, for sales, a cheque where settlement is for cash. Further

developments could include information on and quotations for mortgages, personal loans, unit trust transactions and insurance business.

For most visitors, Money '86 will be much more to do with the fundamental problems of how best to make use of limited financial resources, and the balance between savings and risk investments such as unit trusts.

One word of warning. Don't sign on the dotted line for any savings or investment contract in the heat and atmosphere of the occasion. Listen to the advice, take away the literature and study it at home.

The organizers of Money '86 are planning a Northern Show in Manchester next February.

Peter Gardland

Early for Burgundy

WINES

The shippers of fine Burgundies, both red and white, from the outstanding 1985 vintage have started to show samples to the trade, and the first offers are now emerging. In view of the short harvest last year, high quality and world-wide demand, investors would be wise to purchase early so as not to be disappointed.

The large vintage just ending in Burgundy, despite hail damage in June in the Côte d'Or, is likely to depress prices for the immediate crop but not for 1985.

Louis Latour, a noted House based in Beaune, showed last year's vintage this week in London. Although the lesser lines such as St Véran and Monagny were on the light side, the "investment" white Burgundies revealed real promise.

The true almond Chardonnay fruit was evident on Puligny-Montrachet Les Folatières and Corton Charlemagne.

In the reds, look particularly for Château Corton Grancey and Romanée St Vivant, Les Quatre Jours. The UK agents, H. Parrot and Co (The Old Customs House, 3 Wapping Pierhead, London, E1 9PN) will advise stockists.

There is very evident demand for good Burgundy at auction. Christie's sold 1982 Corton Charlemagne for £305 and Montrachet, Le Ramonet 1982 at £700 on October 2, while International Wine Auctions, which does not have a buyer's commission, realized £2,500 in mid-September for Montrachet 1982, Domaine de Romanée-Comti and £1,150 for de Vogüé's 1978 Musigny Blanc, in both cases per dozen bottles.

The Burgundian House of

F. Chauvenet, based at Nuits St Georges, has also showed a good selection of 1985 wines from the region. In the whites, the crisp St Romain and Premier Cru St Aubin both showed good fruit at modest prices, but real joys to reserve for price appreciation were Chassagne Montrachet (both single commune and Premier Cru Morgon), Corton Charlemagne with its many layers, and Meusault Charnes from the Hospices de Beaune auction. Prices for the top whites are likely to be £25 per dozen bottles upwards.

A carefully prepared list of 1985 whites from Burgundy has been unveiled this week by Justerini and Brooks, the fine wine side of Grand Metropolitan (61 St James's Street, London SW1A 1JZ). It includes two classic Meusaults at £50 per bottle pre-discount. Auction room demand for good Burgundy continues. On September 24, Sotheby's sold La Tâche 1971 DRC at £220 per magnum, Musigny 1969 from de Vogüé at £660 per dozen bottles, and Bienvenues Bâard Montrachet 1983 from André Ramonet at £550. There was similarly strong support at the Glasgow sale of Phillips on Thursday and there is likely to be keen bidding at Christie's next Thursday, particularly for the white Burgundies.

Although without a discussion of prices, one of the best guides to the potentially confusing region is The Wines of Burgundy, by Serena Sutcliffe, recently published at £4.95 by Mitchell Beazley in its pocket guide series. With so many producers and individual vineyards, it is a helpful introduction to this most complex of French regions and will inspire investors to scour the pages of not only merchants' lists but also sale room catalogues.

Conal Gregory

Harveys of Bristol has just

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Richard Copley-Smith: trying to suit all needs

out for and what not to do if you are visiting Money '86 next week.

First, a little background. Money '86 is the second annual money show to be held in London. Money '85 was staged this time last year and attracted 12,500 visitors over four days. With three times as many exhibitors this time around, the organizers are clearly hoping to attract even more visitors.

You can take your pick of more than 250 financial institutions, advisers, brokers and dealers - all keen to answer your questions on subjects as diverse as mortgages and investment trusts, personal equity plans and school fees.

Among the household name exhibitors you will find American Express, the Halifax Building Society, the Prudential and the TSB.

Place: Olympia Exhibition Centre, London W14 (01-603 3344)

Dates: October 30 to November 2

Opening times: 11am to 7.30pm every day except Sunday, November 2, when opening times are 11am to 5pm

Admission: Adults £4, old age pensioners and minors £2

How to get there: During Money '86 a special Underground train service operates between Earts Court, Kensington Olympia, and Kensington High Street stations. Bus routes 9, 27, 28, 33, 49, 73 and 91 stop near Olympia. Next to the Exhibition Hall the new InterCity station operates a direct service with many parts of the country. For further information on this British Rail service, telephone 01-928 5100

There is parking space for 600 cars at the multi-storey covered car park off Olympia Way

developments could include information on and quotations for mortgages, personal loans, unit trust transactions and insurance business.

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The organizers of Money '86 are planning a Northern Show in Manchester next February.

Peter Gardland

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Application has been made to the Council of The Stock Exchange for the ordinary shares of the Company, issued and now being issued, to be admitted to the Official List. You are advised to read the full Listing Particulars dated 22 October 1986 relating to Avis Europe plc before completing and returning your Application Form.



Avis Europe plc

(Registered in England under the Companies Act 1985—No. 1995619)

Offer for Subscription

of ordinary shares of 25p each at 250p per share payable in full on application

Sponsored and Underwritten by

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPLICATION

(a) The contract created by the acceptance of applications will be conditional upon the admission of the ordinary share capital of the Company, issued and now being issued, to the Official List of The Stock Exchange and listing becoming effective not later than 13 November 1986, upon the Underwriting Agreement referred to in paragraph 8 of Further Information in the Listing Particulars relating to the Company dated 22 October 1986 ("the Listing Particulars") not being terminated in accordance with its terms and upon the option in the agreement referred to in paragraph 10(f) of Further Information in the Listing Particulars being exercised. If Morgan Grenfell rescinds the Underwriting Agreement, the said contract will also be rescinded without liability. Cheques or banker's drafts for amounts payable on application may be presented for payment before such conditions are satisfied and the application moneys will be kept by Midland Bank plc in a separate bank account. If such conditions are not satisfied as aforesaid, application moneys will be returned (without interest) by sending the applicant's cheque or banker's draft or a crossed cheque in favour of the applicant(s) through the post.

(b) The Company reserves the right with the agreement of Morgan Grenfell to reject in whole or in part or to scale down any application and, in particular, multiple or suspected multiple applications and to present for payment any cheques or banker's drafts received. If any application is accepted in whole or in part or is scaled down, the application moneys or, as the case may be, the balance thereof will be returned (without interest) by returning the cheque or banker's draft accompanying the application or by crossed cheque in favour of the applicant(s) through the post.

(c) By completing and delivering an Application Form, you:

(i) offer to subscribe the number of ordinary shares of 25p each in the capital of the Company ("ordinary shares") specified in your Application Form (or any smaller number for which the application is accepted) subject to the Listing Particulars (of which these Terms and Conditions of Application and the Procedure for Application form part) and the Memorandum and Articles of Association of the Company;

(ii) authorise Midland Bank plc to send a Letter of Allotment for the number of ordinary shares for which your application is accepted, and/or the cheque or banker's draft accompanying the application or a crossed cheque for any money returnable, by post to your address (or that of the first-named applicant) as set out in your Application Form and to procure that your name (together with the name(s) of any other joint applicant(s)) is/are placed on the Register of Members of the Company in respect of such ordinary shares the entitlement to which has not been duly renounced;

(iii) agree that, in consideration of the Company agreeing that it will not prior to 13 November 1986 allot any of the ordinary shares the subject of the Offer to any person other than by means of the procedures referred to in the Listing Particulars, your application may not be revoked until after 13 November 1986 and that this paragraph constitutes a collateral contract between you and the Company which will become binding upon despatch by post to or, as the case may be, receipt by Midland Bank plc, of your Application Form;

(iv) warrant that your remittance will be honoured on first presentation;

(v) agree that any Letter of Allotment and any money returnable to you may be retained by Midland Bank plc pending clearance of your remittance;

(vi) agree that all applications, acceptances of applications and contracts resulting therefrom under the Offer will be governed by and construed in accordance with English law;

(vii) warrant that, if you sign the Application Form on behalf of somebody else or on behalf of a corporation, you have due authority to do so;

(viii) confirm that in making such application you are not relying on any information or representation in relation to the Company or any of its subsidiaries other than such as is contained in the Listing Particulars and you accordingly agree that no person responsible solely or jointly for the Listing Particulars or any part thereof will have any liability for any information or representation not so contained;

(b) declare, represent and warrant that:

(1) you understand that the ordinary shares referred to herein have not been and are not presently intended to be registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, of the United States of America ("the Securities Act") or the securities laws of any state of the United States ("State Act"), and accordingly may not be offered, sold, renounced, transferred, delivered, assigned, exchanged or otherwise disposed of, directly or indirectly, in the United States of America, its territories, possessions or any area subject to its jurisdiction ("United States") or in Canada (collectively "North America") or to or for the account or benefit of any person who is a national, citizen or resident thereof or who is normally resident therein, a corporation, partnership, or other entity created or organised under any law of the United States or Canada or state, dominion or political subdivision thereof or an estate or trust, the income of which is subject to United States Federal or Canadian income taxes regardless of its source, other than Avis Capital Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiaries, ("North American Persons") at any time prior to 6 November 1987; thereafter such shares may not be offered, sold, renounced, transferred, delivered, assigned, exchanged or otherwise disposed of, directly or indirectly, in North America, or to or for the account or benefit of a North American Person unless (i) the shares are duly registered under the Securities Act and all applicable State Acts, or (ii) registration under the Securities Act and all applicable State Acts is not required and the Company has received an opinion of counsel to such effect satisfactory to it, or (iii) such shares are sold on The Stock Exchange in London in accordance with the normal trading procedures approved by that exchange;

(2) you are not/nor of you is a North American Person; and

(3) you are not/nor of you is acquiring any such shares for the account or the benefit of any North American Person or with a view to their offer, sale, renunciation, transfer, delivery, assignment, exchange or other disposition directly or indirectly in North America or to or for the benefit of any North American Person; and

(4) warrant that not more than one application has been made by you (or on your behalf) and for your benefit on a public application form.

(d) Acceptance of applications will be effected at the election of the Company either by notification of the basis of allocation to The Stock Exchange or by notification by the Company to Midland Bank plc of the determination of the number of ordinary shares for which the application is accepted.

(e) All documents and cheques sent by post will be at the risk of the person(s) entitled thereto.

(f) No person receiving a copy of the Listing Particulars, or an Application Form, in any

territory other than the United Kingdom may treat the same as constituting an invitation or offer to him, nor should he in any event use such form unless, in the relevant territory, such an invitation or offer could lawfully be made to him or such form could lawfully be used without contravention of any registration or other legal requirements. Any person outside the United Kingdom wishing to make an application hereunder must satisfy himself as to full observance of the laws of any relevant territory in connection therewith, including obtaining any requisite governmental or other consents, and compliance with any other requisite formalities, and paying any issue, transfer or other taxes due in such territory.

(g) Forms of Application incorporate a warranty that the applicant is not a North American Person and is not applying on behalf of, or with a view to re-offer, sale, renunciation or transfer to, or for the benefit of, any North American Person. Registration application forms on Letters of Allotment will contain a warranty to the same effect by or on behalf of the person(s) in whose names the ordinary shares are to be registered.

Copies of the Listing Particulars can be obtained from:

Morgan Grenfell & Co. Limited
20 Finsbury Circus
London EC2M 7BB

Morgan Grenfell Securities Limited
20 Finsbury Circus
London EC2M 7BB

Midland Bank plc
Stock Exchange Services Department
Mariner House
Peppys Street
London EC3N 4DA

Cazenove & Co.
12 Tokenhouse Yard
London EC2R 7AN

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BASIS OF ACCEPTANCE AND DEALING ARRANGEMENTS

The Application List will open at 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 30 October 1986 and will close as soon thereafter as Morgan Grenfell may determine. The basis on which the applications have been accepted will be announced as soon as possible after the Application List closes. It is expected that renounceable Letters of Allotment will be posted to successful applicants on 5 November 1986 and that dealings in the ordinary shares will commence on Thursday, 6 November 1986. Dealing instructions will be set out in the Letter of Allotment. The latest time for registration of renounceable Letters of Allotment will be 3.00 p.m. on 5 December 1986 and share certificates will be despatched by 2 January 1987.

Applicants who deal before receipt of a Letter of Allotment will do so at their own risk. They must recognise that their application may not have been accepted to the extent they expected or at all.

The Directors are advised that:

- (a) no stamp duty or stamp duty reserve tax will be payable on the issue of renounceable Letters of Allotment;
 - (b) no stamp duty or stamp duty reserve tax will be payable on the registration of Letters of Allotment, whether or not they have been renounced prior to registration;
 - (c) the purchaser of rights to shares represented by a Letter of Allotment on or before the latest time for registration of renunciation will be liable to stamp duty reserve tax at the rate of 50p per £100 (or part thereof) of the consideration paid; and
 - (d) the transfer on sale of shares represented by a Letter of Allotment after the latest time for registration of renunciation will be subject to ad valorem stamp duty (or, if an unconditional agreement to transfer such a document is not completed by a duly stamped transfer within two months, stamp duty reserve tax at the rate of 50p per £100 (or part thereof) of the consideration paid.
- The charge to stamp duty reserve tax will not generally apply to purchases by a market maker or to certain purchases by a broker and dealer.

PROCEDURE FOR APPLICATION — APPLICATION PRICE 250P PER SHARE

- 1 Insert in Box 1 (in figures) the number of ordinary shares for which you are applying. Applications must be for a minimum of 100 ordinary shares or in one of the following multiples:
for more than 100 shares, but not more than 1,000 shares, in multiples of 100 shares
for more than 1,000 shares, but not more than 5,000 shares, in multiples of 500 shares
for more than 5,000 shares, but not more than 10,000 shares, in multiples of 1,000 shares
for more than 10,000 shares, but not more than 50,000 shares, in multiples of 5,000 shares
for more than 50,000 shares, in multiples of 10,000 shares.
- 2 Insert in Box 2 (in figures) the amount of your cheque or banker's draft.
- 3 Sign and date the Application Form in Box 3.
The Application Form may be signed by someone else on your behalf (and/or on behalf of any joint applicant(s)) if duly authorised to do so but the power(s) of attorney or corporate form(s) of authority (or a duly certified copy thereof) must be enclosed for inspection. A corporation should sign under the hand of a duly authorised official whose representative capacity must be stated.
- 4 Insert your full name and address in BLOCK CAPITALS in Box 4.
- 5 You must pin a single cheque or banker's draft to your completed Application Form. Your cheque or banker's draft must be made payable to "Midland Bank plc" for the amount payable on application inserted in Box 2 and should be crossed "Not Negotiable". No receipt will be issued for this payment, which must be solely for this application.
Your cheque or banker's draft must be drawn in sterling on an account at a branch (which must be in the United Kingdom, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man) of a bank which is either a member of the London or Scottish Clearing Houses or which has arranged for its cheques and banker's drafts to be presented for payment through the clearing facilities provided for the members of those Clearing Houses. All cheques and banker's drafts must bear the appropriate sorting code number in the top right hand corner.
Applications may be accompanied by a cheque drawn by someone other than the applicant(s), but any moneys to be returned will be returned by sending the cheque or banker's draft accompanying the application or by crossed cheque in favour of the person(s) named in Box(es) 4 (and 6).
A separate cheque or banker's draft must accompany each application.
Photocopies of Application Forms will not be accepted.
An application will not be considered unless these conditions are fulfilled.
- 6 You may apply jointly with other persons.
You must then arrange for the Application Form to be completed by or on behalf of each joint applicant (up to a maximum of three other persons). Their full names and addresses should be inserted in BLOCK CAPITALS in Box 6.
- 7 Box 7 must be signed by or on behalf of each joint applicant (other than the first applicant who should complete Box 4 and sign in Box 3).
If anyone is signing on behalf of any joint applicant(s), the power(s) of attorney or corporate form(s) of authority (or a duly certified copy thereof) must be enclosed for inspection.
- ★ You must send the completed Application Form by post, or deliver it by hand, to Midland Bank plc, Stock Exchange Services Department, Mariner House, Peppys Street, London EC3N 4DA so as to be received not later than 10.00 a.m. on Thursday, 30 October 1986.
If you post your Application Form, you are recommended to use first class post and allow at least two days for delivery.

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1/We offer to subscribe for ordinary shares 1

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and I/we attach a cheque or banker's draft for the amount payable, namely £ 2

United States and Canada—North American Persons may not apply
Applicants should pay particular attention to the warranty concerning North American Persons in sub-paragraph (c)(ii) of Terms and Conditions of Application

Date: 1986 Signature: 3

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Mr. Mrs. Miss or title Forename(s) in full Surname 4

Address in full

Postcode

Pin here your cheque/banker's draft for the amount in Box 2

Fill in this section only where there is more than one applicant. The first or sole applicant should complete Box 4 and sign in Box 3. Insert in Box 6 the names and addresses of the second and subsequent applicants, each of whose signature is required in Box 7.

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS

Mr. Mrs. Miss or title Forename(s) Surname	Mr. Mrs. Miss or title Forename(s) Surname	Mr. Mrs. Miss or title Forename(s) Surname	6
Address	Address	Address	
Postcode	Postcode	Postcode	

Signature Signature Signature 7

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FAMILY MONEY 4

Why small speculators are brokers' favourites

SHARES

The City's financial revolution and the Government's privatization programme have made it a lot easier in recent times for the small investor to buy shares on the stock market.

Firms of stockbrokers that at one time would scarcely have given him the time of day are now pandering to his every wish in the hope of picking up valuable business. Many of them now realize that the easy days of working for the big City institutions and making a comfortable living are over.

After Big Bang on Monday, the majority of institutional orders will be divided up among the handful of big firms willing to risk the loss of fat commissions for increased turnover.

So the smaller brokers have now been forced to turn to the little man to earn their living.

As a result, the man in the street is now overwhelmed with investment advice. He can read about the benefits of buying shares in his daily paper, ponder it during the commercial breaks on television and even run across it during a visit to the local department store.

The stories of the fat profits that have been earned on the stock market in the past by investors buying shares in new issues such as the Trustee Savings Bank, Jaguar, British Telecom, Amersham International, Cable & Wireless and Associated British Ports will certainly tempt him to part with some of his hard-earned cash.

However, not all the Government's privatization issues have been run-away success stories. The first tranche of British offered in 1982 by tender at 215p turned out to be a costly lesson for the small investor. Many professionals thought the issue was too expensive and the subsequent slump in oil prices left the small investor with some heavy losses.

The real problem is when to sell

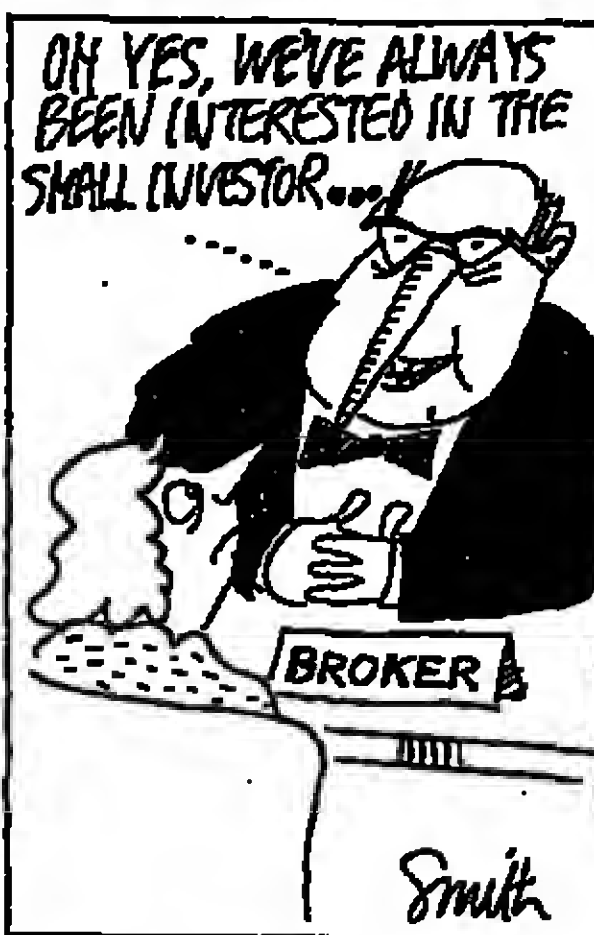
But having followed his broker's advice, parted with his money and taken the plunge, our fearless investor may find it is far from plain sailing from here on in.

After all, any fool can invest in shares these days, the real problem is knowing when to sell.

The financial press, investment newsletters and financial advisers all seem to have an inexhaustible supply of buy recommendations, but few are geared up to tell investors when to take profits, or more importantly, when to cut losses.



Meinertzhagen: warning



Most dealers in the stock market who buy shares for themselves live by the old adage of "run your winners and cut your losers", but for the private investor things are not that simple.

There are a number of things that should always be taken into account before an investor instructs his broker to sell his shares.

What often appears to be a lucrative profit on paper may not always be quite so attractive when converted into hard cash. Profits have a habit of rapidly disappearing after the broker deducts his commission, stamp duty is paid and the tax man takes what is owing.

Always try to establish beforehand how much the costs are likely to be before parting with your money. The rise in the share price must always be enough to cover these costs. Otherwise, your initial investment will soon dwindle.

The stock market caters for all types of investor. Some are looking for capital gain, others for income, or recovery. Some prefer long-term investments and others are content with just a "quick turn".

The professional stockbroker must cater for all of them.

Peter Meinertzhagen is a director of UK equity sales at Hoare Govett, the broker. Every day he handles shares worth millions of pounds on behalf of clients. His investment decisions are critical. There can be little room for error.

Mr Meinertzhagen believes the boom in the stock market may already be over for the time being. "We are on the

third and final leg of a bull market", he warns. "The signs are all there and similar to those we saw before the last slump in the early 1970s - rising house prices, increased lending and lower industrial output. People are borrowing too much."

But for those investors looking for medium-term to long-term investments, the crunch is unlikely to come until early spring. Only then, with the possibility of a general election looming, should they consider selling.

Meanwhile, there are still profits to be made in the equity market and he thinks they should go for British Gas expected next month.

Mr Meinertzhagen urges investors to have a target they wish to achieve. Only when that target is reached should they take profits.

Meanwhile, Robert White, a director of Wood Mackenzie, the broker, and head of its private client business, urges the small man to be choosy about his choice of investment. He advises them to go for quality stocks in areas with plenty of growth potential instead of declining sectors. "You must not try to be too clever and dodge in and out of different stocks. Go for long-term investments," he says.

But the most difficult decision for any investor comes when he finds he is sitting on a loss. Does he hang on in there and hope the situation will right itself, or does he cut his losses and run?

"It takes quite a bit of courage to cut your losses," says Mr White. But he says that if a share price falls by more than 20 per cent, perhaps, as a rule of thumb, he should consider salvaging what money he has left. There is certainly no easy answer.

For many of London's big fund managers the question of selling shares hardly ever arises except during periods of redemption, or if liquidity levels are low. They are then referred to in the market as "false sellers".

There is always a target in mind

But even the powerful fund manager with millions of pounds at his disposal has certain guidelines to follow. Once again he will always have a target in mind. Some buy for the dividend. Once the dividend has been paid, he sells the shares hoping to buy them back more cheaply later on.

But if you have bought shares for a particular reason, it is always the best policy to sell them once that has been achieved and then look for other opportunities.

Michael Clark

Next Monday, as well as being the day of Big Bang, should also witness fireworks of a different kind in the House of Lords when the Financial Services Bill has its Third Reading.

The Bill has sparked off a wide range of controversial issues. One which has not been satisfactorily resolved is how much the investor purchasing a life assurance product should be told about its costs.

Life assurance underpins many products such as endowment mortgages and school fees plans. Not only do purchasers pay large commissions to salesmen but the insurance companies also levy expenses or charges which reduce the amount of your money going towards actual investment. Commissions can frequently amount to 120 per cent of your first year's premiums and charges or expenses about one fifth of every premium.

The Securities and Investments Board (SIB) has ruled against full disclosure of commission. Consumer bodies and the Office of Fair Trading disagree.

Agent should do his best for you

The SIB has preferred to require insurance companies to disclose "surrender values" - in other words how much policies would be worth if they were cashed in early.

The SIB has also said that, if the insurance companies agree a fixed scale of commissions for their policies, independent intermediaries need disclose only that commissions are in line with that scale. Only where the policies sold are not within the scale must full commission be disclosed.

But full disclosure of commissions ought to be compulsory for all sales made by an independent intermediary. He is supposed to be acting on your behalf as your agent to do the best job possible for you. The SIB has said as much in its draft rules.

Moreover, as your agent the law actually requires him to disclose the commissions that

Conflict looms over the cut on cover

he will earn from selling you a product. Solicitors and accountants recognize this. If you buy a life assurance product through them they will disclose the amount - and rebate it from your bill.

The idea that intermediaries should be able to hide their commissions behind an industry agreement, which is available for inspection, is an anathema to investor protection.

The Office of Fair Trading says on this matter that "it considers that competition policy and the protection of the consumer require a comprehensive disclosure of a company's commission rates before a contract is entered into".

In fact, "life assurance" is a clear misrepresentation - very little of the premium goes on insuring your life. Term insurance insures your life - and the commissions payable, like the premiums, are very low.

The Office of Fair Trading says that if full disclosure "led to more sales of term insurance at the expense of endowment and whole life policies this might well be to the benefit rather than to the detriment of the consumers".

It adds that "insurance as a long term investment" as opposed to a method of insuring your life, is a more debatable matter; there are plenty of other havens for the consumer's long-term savings".

In recent months the question of disclosure has become lost behind a related argument. This says that, instead of telling investors how much they are paying in commis-

sions, they should be given a breakdown showing them how much of their money goes into investment and life insurance and how much goes in commissions and charges and expenses.

This would be ideal for the consumer as it would show both commissions and insurance company charges and expenses. Unfortunately, the SIB decided this was not feasible in the case of with-profits life assurance where money goes into a common pool and investment results depend on the life company's future profitability.

It has recently announced an independent inquiry to see if a solution to the with-profits problem is achievable.

Michael Howard, the Minister for Consumer and Corporate Affairs, who is overseeing the Financial Services Bill, favours providing consumers with a breakdown.

"I don't think I've ever made any secret of the fact that if it is possible to give that breakdown then it should be done," he says. "And I think I said when the matter came up at Report stage in the House of

Two-thirds are still with-profits policies

Commons that I wouldn't necessary expect the kind of disclosure to be fixed for all time but as more techniques became available it might be possible to disclose more and differently."

Sir Kenneth Berrill, the SIB chairman, is a little more cautious. In an interview with The Times he said: "SIB is all in favour of disclosure. It runs through all our rules. The one area where we found it just technically impossible to do so far - if somebody could tell us how to do it we would be delighted - is with-profits life assurance. Two-thirds of the life assurance business that is done is still with-profits."

"If a breakdown can be provided we will look and see whether it is helpful. If it is helpful we will require it."

Lawrence Lever

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Table with columns: Fund, Launched, Growth. Rows include Capital, International Growth, American & General, American Turnaround, Recovery, Japan & General, European.

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OUR INSIGHT

Framlington Group plc is itself a financial services company. This gives us invaluable insight into the sector. Apart from our unit trusts, off-shore funds

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(Joint applicants should all sign and if necessary enclose details separately)

FRAMLINGTON FINANCIAL FUND

The question of commissions

Quite what will happen to the commissions which private clients pay to stockbrokers after Big Bang is anyone's guess.

Many people think that in many cases the individual investor will become the sacrificial lamb for the inevitable

fall in commissions earned by the brokers from the big institutional investors.

A report produced by the Stock Exchange this week shows that during the past three years the costs of buying and selling shares have increased substantially for the very small private investor.

For example, average commissions on share deals worth £600 or less have risen from 3.83 per cent of the total value of the transaction to 6.81 per cent.

However above this level the private investor buying shares

has only suffered relatively small increases in commissions.

As the commission levels have increased the private investor participation in actual share dealings has declined.

This might seem a little incongruous given the recent privatization wave, not to mention TSB.

However, what the figures say is not that there are fewer private shareholders than in 1983, but that they do not trade their shares as much.

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FAMILY MONEY 15

The asset that is your mortgage

Mortgages are back in the news in a big way following the rise in mortgage interest rates. LIZ WALKINGTON assesses the fundamental choices facing house-buyers

Buying a house is both a substantial financial commitment and a sound investment. When the mortgage is paid off, you should be the outright owner of a valuable asset. Meanwhile, however, there is still that mortgage. At times it may feel like a millstone round your neck, but it can be an investment in itself.

With an ordinary repayment mortgage, you pay interest and some capital every month, gradually repaying the loan. With an endowment mortgage, on the other hand, you pay only interest to the lender, and premiums on an endowment policy to an insurance company. The whole loan is outstanding throughout, and is repaid in one lump sum at the end from the proceeds of the policy.

The attraction is that it is intended to produce more than enough for the mortgage, so there is something left over for your own enjoyment.

If an endowment mortgage will do more than meet the loan, it should be more expensive than the repayment method which does just that. So indeed it would be, for a full with-profits policy, but low-cost and unit-linked contracts can work out at very little extra.

The trick with the low-cost endowment is that it allows in advance for a proportion of the expected bonuses, or "profits", to be paid over the term. The basic sum assured is thus less than the amount of the loan, but the accrued

bonuses should make up the difference when the policy matures. Usually, the sums are based on 80 per cent of the current bonus rate, which is often the maximum a building society will accept. So anything more produces a surplus for the policyholder.

On a unit-linked endowment, premiums are invested in one or more funds which operate in a fashion similar to unit trusts. That is, the premiums buy units, the price of which is determined by the total worth of the fund's investment holdings. As this rises — or falls — so does the value of your units.

Most companies offer a range of fund links, between which the policyholder can choose and switch as he likes. So you could, in effect, play the stock markets with your mortgage policy. However, one false move could be very costly.

You may be able to pay it off early

Contracts usually assume an annual growth rate of 7.5 per cent, net of all charges. If the value of your units goes up by exactly this, the proceeds of the policy will just equal the loan. In most cases, there is a periodic review system, to check that growth is on target. If it exceeds 7.5 per cent, well and good; but if it falls short, you may have to increase your premiums, or perhaps extend the term of the mortgage, provided the lender agrees.

In the happy event that the actual growth rate, for either type of endowment, is better than that assumed, you will usually have the option to repay the mortgage early. Alternatively, you could continue with the policy to build up the extra tax-free cash.

Terminal bonuses are the most vulnerable in this respect, as they are payable only in the final year of the policy and depend entirely on investment returns at that time. The regular, or so-called reversionary, bonuses are underpinned to some extent by reserves which the companies maintain to smooth out fluctuations.

Unit-linked policies are even more at the mercy of market movements, as they have no such reserves. These contracts are still fairly new, and not all building societies will accept them. However, their proponents would argue that the basic assumption of a 7.5 per cent growth rate is conservative, and the review system offers a measure of

protection. Though an increase in premiums would be unpleasant, it is probably less painful than a substantial shortfall at the end of the term.

Before the introduction of MIRAS (Mortgage Interest Relief at Source), repayment mortgages were structured so that gross monthly payments were more or less level throughout the term. Because payments in the early years consisted largely of interest, tax relief was at its highest then, and net payments actually followed an upward curve. Most people are hardest pressed at the start of a mortgage, so this gave the repayment method particular appeal.

Post-MIRAS, net payments were equalized, so this low-start advantage was lost, and endowment mortgages became more popular. However, the abolition of life assurance premium relief, which was an added attraction of endowment policies, has tended to restore the balance. Repayment mortgages are somewhat cheaper, but only pay off the loan, while the endowment types have investment potential, but also carry a risk.

It is possible to have the best of both worlds, with a contract such as GRE's Homebuilder Plus. This is a unit-linked endowment, with a built-in guarantee to repay the loan. Premiums are based on a growth rate of only 5 per cent a year, so they are higher than on standard contracts.

However, the chance of a surplus is also greater, while if disaster should hit the markets, you will not be left to face your lender empty-handed.

One of the main fears of people facing retirement is whether they will continue to be able to make ends meet. Come the winter months, many elderly householders will find themselves struggling to pay the fuel bills, unaware that the money tied up in their property could be used to ease the burden.

Few financial benefits are laid on for the over-seventies, who continue to get a rather poor deal from society. But one answer to an old person's cash problems is to raise some money from the home.

There are two types of scheme, both of which give access to part of the value of the home. The first, called a home income plan, produces monthly income for life while keeping ownership of the property. The second, a reversion scheme, involves selling the home for a cash sum and continuing to live there at a nominal rent.

Home income plans operate by raising a mortgage on a proportion — up to 80 per cent — of the value of your house, to a current maximum of £30,000. This is used to buy a special type of insurance contract called an annuity. The annuity generates monthly income, part of which pays on the interest on the mortgage, leaving the rest to spend as you please.

Interest on the loan is eligible for tax relief under the Government's Mortgage Interest Relief at Source scheme, known as MIRAS. As a result, only 71 per cent of the mortgage interest is deducted from the annuity income, whether or not you are earning enough to be claiming full tax relief. Those on low incomes who pay no tax receive almost the same net benefits as the taxpayer.

Most companies charge a variable rate of interest, so that the monthly income from the annuity falls as interest rates go up. Abbey National and Allied Dunbar, however, offer a fixed rate plan which many old people may, under-

standably, find preferable. Regardless of changes in the interest rate, they would have a guaranteed monthly income of a fixed amount.

Allied Dunbar illustrates how such a plan can work. A woman aged 75 owns her house currently worth £26,000 and has a small income over and above her state pension. She is given a loan of, say, £20,000, repayable when she dies from the proceeds of the sale of the house. The rest then goes to her family.

While she is alive, she receives an annual sum, after paying off the mortgage interest, of just over £1,000. The example assumes that the

Home is where the extra liquidity is

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While she is alive, she receives an annual sum, after paying off the mortgage interest, of just over £1,000. The example assumes that the

gross rate of interest is fixed at 8.25 per cent and that the woman pays income tax at the basic rate.

You may be interested to note that detailed research has been conducted into our chances of survival over the age of 65. According to Allied Dunbar's life expectancy table, a 75-year-old woman can hope to live for at least

another 11 years — men, incidentally, for only nine. But life is a gamble and, while not wanting to appear pessimistic, our hypothetical woman may well not live long enough to reap the real benefits of her financial prudence. Tough luck on her family, you might say. In fact, it is not as bad as it seems.

There is some protection against an early death. If the woman were to die within the first year of the plan, only 25 per cent of the loan would have to be repaid, in the second 50 per cent, and in the third 75 per cent. After that the loan has to be paid back in full.



At the other end of the scale, too, there have been cases to baffle the statisticians. As featured in *The Times* this summer, two of Allied Dunbar's most faithful clients, May and Marjorie Chevasse, defied odds of 50 million to one to reach the age of 100 and become the country's oldest surviving set of twins. In 1973, the sisters entered one of the

company's first-ever home income plans and as joint-annuitants have received an income of £80 a month for 13 years.

The principal alternative to the income plan is the reversion scheme. You sell your house to a reversion company for a one-off lump sum and/or an annuity income, then rent it back at a small cost. One problem is that, because the house is sold while you still live there, it will fail to reach its full market value — in some cases only 50 per cent of the amount it would reach if it were vacant. In addition, repairs and maintenance and rates would continue to be your responsibility.

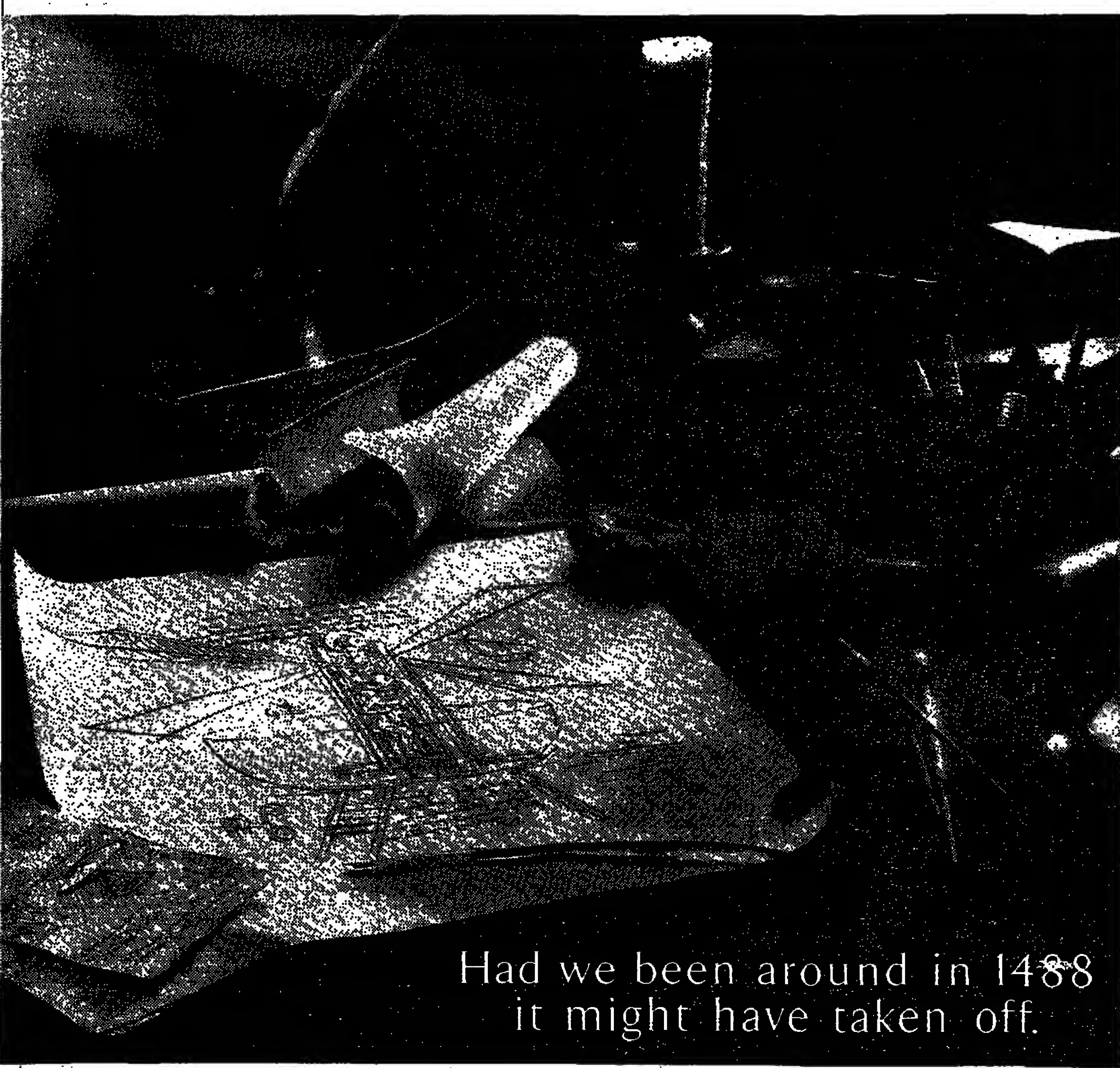
As always, there are conditions. You must be over 70, or, in the case of a couple, have a joint age of 150. If you are claiming supplementary or housing benefit, receiving the income from an annuity may mean a reduction in some or all of the state aid.

Home income plans are offered by the Abbey National, Halifax, National & Provincial, Chestnut, Newcastle, and Kent Reliance Building Societies. They are also offered through a number of other financial institutions — Allied Dunbar, Home Reversions, Hinton and Wild Insurance, Alchurches Life Assurance, and Whittington Life and Pensions.

Companies offering reversion schemes are Home Reversions, J.G. Inskip and Co. Investment Property Reversions, Residential Home Reversions, and Stalwart Assurance.

For more details about both home income plans and reversion schemes, Age Concern publishes a comprehensive fact sheet entitled *Raising Income from your Home*. Copies are available on receipt of a large stamped addressed envelope from Age Concern, 60 Pitcairn Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3LL.

Kate Brown



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TOUCHE REMNANT
TR GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY FUND

Free cash, no takers

It is an extraordinary state of affairs when a government stands ready to hand out money and nobody appears to want it. JENNIE HAWTHORNE reports on the cash with no takers

The Home Loan Scheme was introduced by the Labour Government in December 1978, to help savers to acquire their first home. The scheme is quite simple. You give notice on form HPA 1 to any institution taking part that you intend saving for a home. The relevant institutions include building societies, banks, the Department for National Savings and Ulster Savings.

You continue saving, though not necessarily on any regular basis, for two years. At the end of that time, you qualify for a tax-free cash bonus. In the year before you apply, you must keep at least £300 in your account. The bonus goes up in steps of roughly 10 per cent on every £100 saved. The minimum saving of £300 gets £40 and £1,000 or more gets the full £110.

Provided there is £600 in your account in the second year, you also get a £600 loan. No repayment or interest has to be paid on that loan for five years. So if you are buying a £35,000 property and are offered a £30,000 mortgage loan, you would need only to find a deposit of £4,400 instead of £5,000 and, if you have saved £1,000 or more, you would also have the £110 cash bonus.

As the scheme is meant for first-time buyers, there is a limit on the price of homes that qualify. These limits were increased on September 25 this year, and are as follows:

- Cleveland, Durham, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear: £22,100
- Humberside, North, South and West Yorkshire: £22,800
- Derbyshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire, Northamptonshire, Nottinghamshire: £24,200
- Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk: £30,200
- Greater London: £45,700
- Bedfordshire, Berkshire, Buckinghamshire, East and West Sussex, Essex, Hampshire, Hertfordshire, Isle of Wight, Kent, Oxfordshire, Surrey: £37,900
- Avon, Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Gloucestershire, Somerset, Wiltshire, Isles of Scilly: £30,700
- Hereford and Worcester, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands: £23,800
- Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Merseyside: £23,600
- Wales: £24,100
- Scotland: £27,500

When one considers the escalating price of houses in the South, the amounts offered on Home Loan are not very small. But why are so few of the sums taken up?

A high street manager of a building society who receives monthly as much in deposits as the asset value of one of the minnows, said that in the eight years of the scheme's operation he had been asked to

devoid of information. That very few people apply is borne out by the figures in the table given in answer to a parliamentary question on July 8, 1985.

Is it the small cash bonus that deters people or the two-year saving period? Is the £600 five-year interest-free loan too low, or have house prices escalated too much to make the scheme practical? Maybe there is too little publicity, or inflation has weakened Britain away from the idea of thrift.

Whatever the reason, the scheme is worthy of more support, especially from the young.

HOW THE SCHEME WORKS		
Minimum savings (£) held during the 12 months before applying for bonus		Cash bonus (£)
300-399		40
400-499		50
500-599		60
600-699		70
700-799		80
800-899		90
1,000 or more		110

HOMELoAN ASSISTANCE		
Year	Numbers applying	Amount of assistance (£m)
1980-81	602	0.42
1981-82	5,500	3.86
1982-83	6,280	4.24
1983-84	4,200	2.48
1984-85	4,160	1.60

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FAMILY MONEY/6

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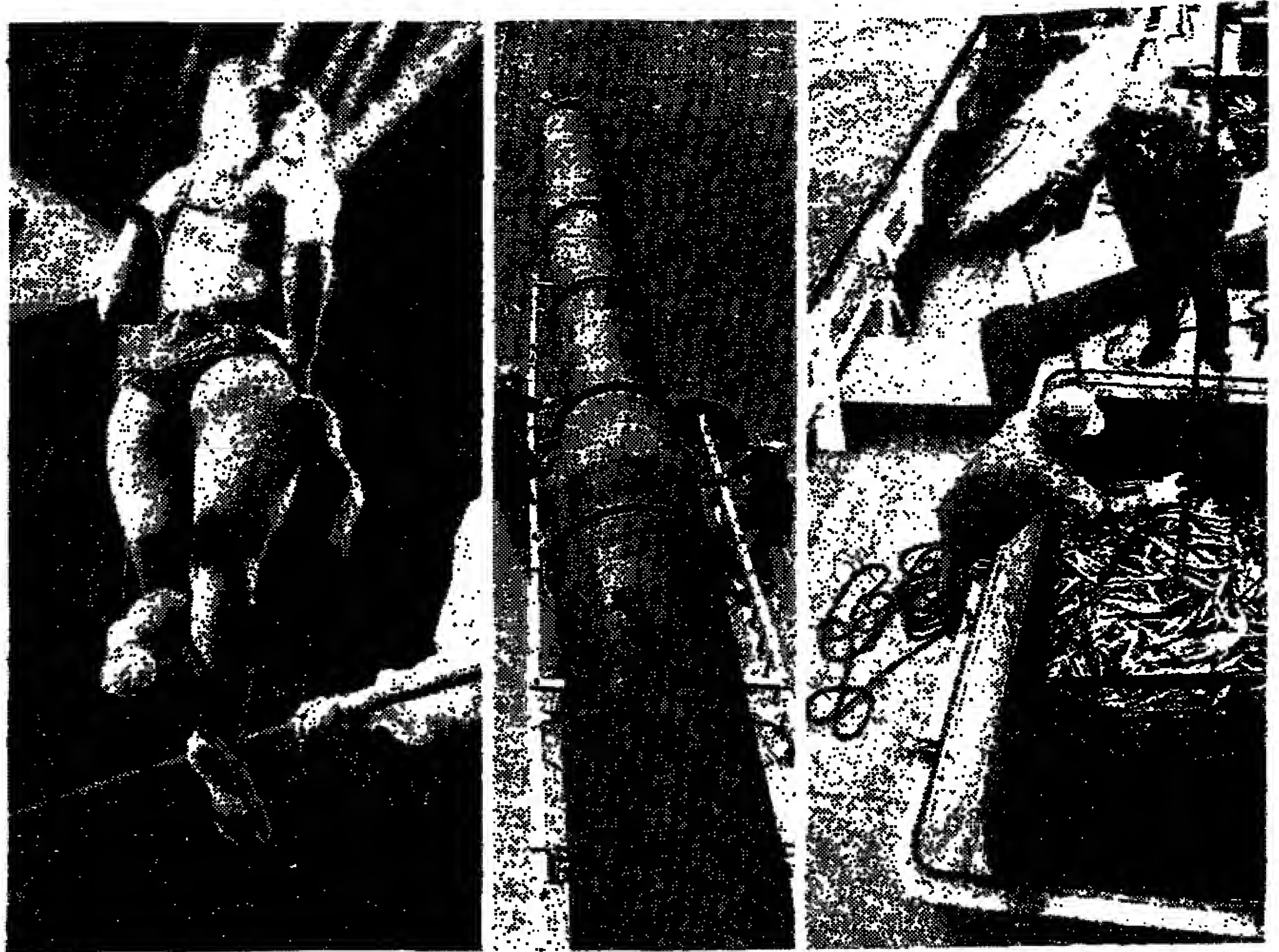
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Mansell celebrates everything except his life premiums



In the top brackets: The price of life assurance is high for aerial artists, steeplejacks, and even deep-sea trawlermen

Price of a champ's fame

LIFE COVER

Nigel Mansell will be making his bid tomorrow for the World Championship in Formula One racing. If he succeeds he will follow James Hunt into the select category of living legends. Mr Mansell must surely be a man to be envied in most respects.

But not all. Even Formula One racing drivers have to pay for their glamour. Apart from being subjected to enormous centrifugal forces while sitting in a cramped cockpit in his fireproof underwear for several hours, Mr Mansell has the serious problem of paying over the odds for life assurance.

Most people take out life insurance to protect their dependants in the event of their death. The idea of leaving one's family with a financial safety net is naturally pleasing to any woman or man with mouths to feed. And the banks care about us too, they really do. If you take out a personal loan you may well discover that the bank will insure your life for the duration of the loan. This type

increments, though, according to Swiss Re's occupational underwriting guide, seem rather modest.

A Red Arrow pilot will pay only 5 per cent above ordinary rate, while a member of the armed forces in Northern Ireland need find just 3 per cent more.

But the book has an ominous red line through the rate for a contract on a member of a Lebanese peace-keeping force. The word "decline" has been written over the figures. Mr Dyason describes the compendium of rates as "the distilled knowledge of actuaries and business practitioners".

He says: "Some things we write contracts for are difficult to monitor accurately. How many trapeze artists are there, and how many are killed on the job?"

Some contracts are for tax reasons

A good question, but the life company must supply some sort of answer if it is to make money. "Aerial artists", in fact, pay just 2 per cent above standard rate.

The risk of being a trapeze artist is roughly equivalent, in actuarial terms, to being on a trawler or being a painter and decorator, or even a steeplejack "above 50ft". Stuntmen have one of the most dangerous jobs, with a 5 per cent extra loading.

If you have an ordinary rate job, such as an electroplater, a swimming instructor or a zoo keeper, unless working in the bear or big cat house, you may still have problems at the life office if you have exotic hobbies.

Record attempts in balloons, bobsleigh runs and pot-holing will all attract a premium between 2 and 7.5 per cent above the normal rate. Judo, karate and even ice hockey — the fight where the occasional game breaks out —

should not affect life premium rates.

Motor racing is deemed to be a pursuit rather than an occupation by the actuaries. Mr Mansell would have to pay £17.50 to £30 per £1,000 insured on his life. This is handsomely more than a male journalist aged under 30, who can protect his life for just £6 to £7 per £1,000 insured.

The beauty of life insurance from the assured's point of view is that once a contract is made the assured can then go off and work on an oil rig or take up rock climbing.

"If someone starts out as a bank clerk and takes up a dangerous hobby, we have to live with it," says a spokesman from Commercial Union.

"We will have made a contract with that person

Insurance deals are based on good faith

when he or she did not have these inclinations."

It is pleasing to think that the insurance industry will take you on board, whims, urges and all.

If, of course, you do not declare a penchant for National Hunt racing at the time of making the contract, your family may not benefit from the policy if the hunter breaks your neck. Insurance contracts in general must be made, in good faith, and failure to disclose an important fact might render the contract worthless.

As the man from Commercial Union says: "The whole principle of this type of insurance is that it isn't fair for a person in a safe occupation to subsidize the person whose job or lifestyle is particularly hazardous."

Martin Baker

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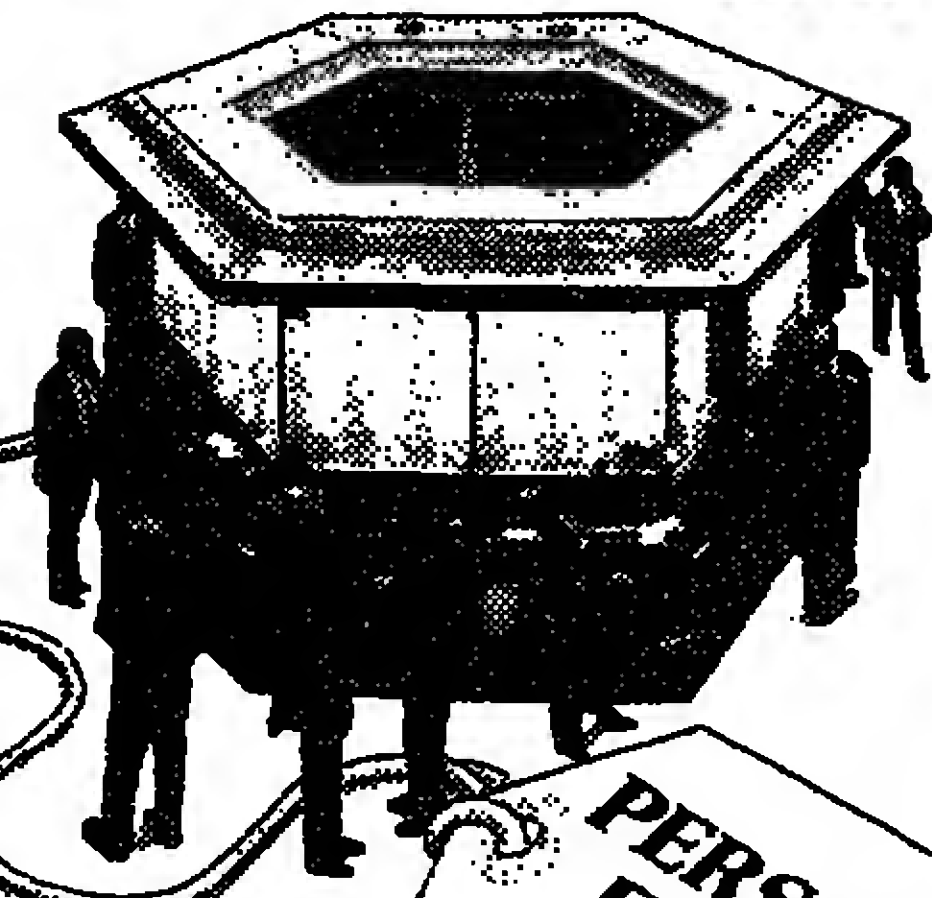
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For your guidance the HIBA net rate was 7.50% p.a. at 20th October 1986.

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at the normal HIBA net rate, which will be increased to the special HIBA rate upon transfer to a Save & Prosper Personal Equity Plan. High-rate taxpayers will have a further liability to tax. Tax cannot be reclaimed by non-taxpayers.

Please note that from 1st January 1987 the HIBA net rate applies, and this is only to deposits of £1,000 and above. Any deposit below this level will earn any interest.

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FAMILY MONEY/7

It's the finish for funny money

POLICIES

From November 1 "funny money" will have been banished by the insurance companies. No longer will the companies be able to show policy benefits as adding up to a king's ransom. BILL HARRINGTON explains what the changes mean

A screen of modesty is being put up by Britain's insurers around the levels of returns used to illustrate the possible benefits from life and pensions policies.

Members of the Association of British Insurers (ABI), which includes virtually all life companies, have decided to "cap" the returns that can be used for illustrations of future benefits. These are to be limited to the amount built up throughout the term by accumulating the premiums at a maximum rate of 13 per cent a year before tax.

For unit-linked and deposit administration-type policies having such a ceiling placed

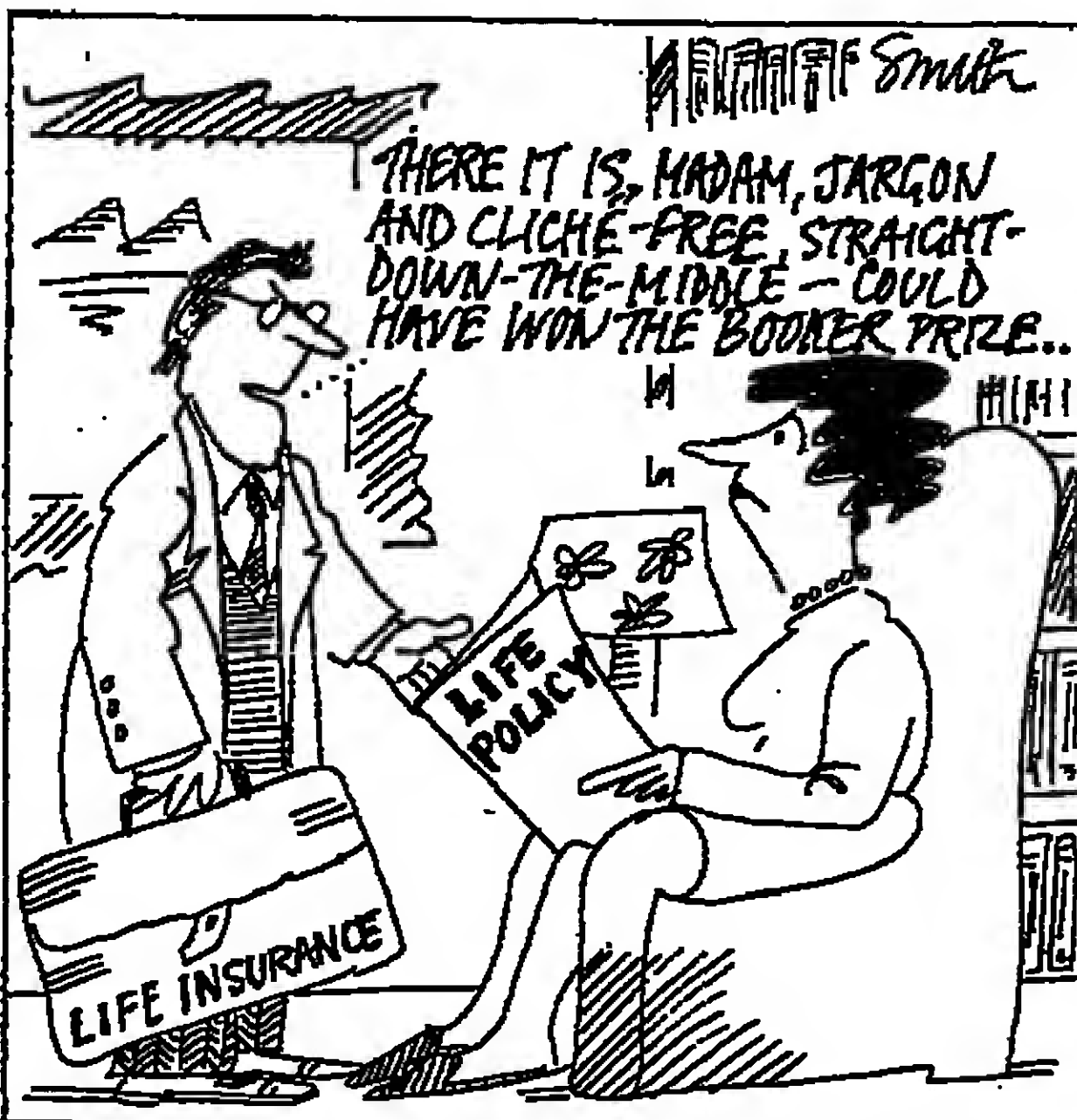
Actual bonus rates remain unchanged

on the rate used can check exaggerated projections simply. The target of the new rules is largely with-profit policies, traditionally presented as a sum assured to which reversionary bonuses and terminal bonuses are added to provide the total final benefit.

Instead of having a dazzling ultimate sum made up of these elements presented to the would-be purchaser, life insurers will just roll up the premiums to the 13 per cent rate throughout the term if it is a pensions policy and not subject to tax, or up to 10.75 per cent (net of tax) per annum for other policies, to arrive at the bottom line figure appearing in the illustration.

To make matters more complicated, this roll-up rate of interest will be calculated not on the premiums the policyholder will actually pay, but premiums reduced by the cost of the life cover and other expenses, such as commission, on a basis set down by the ABI.

In other words an attempt is being made to get at the "invested" portion of the premium. In the case of unit-linked premiums, the expenses deducted will be the usual management charges, including the bid-offer spread.



It is important to realize that none of these changes affects companies' actual rates of bonus and how they add them to policies; reversionary, special and terminal bonuses will all continue to be declared and distributed to policyholders as at present. Only the method of illustration is being changed.

So how will it work in practice? Take a with-profits 10-year endowment policy being arranged by a 30-year-old man, for a premium of £25 a month with the Scottish Widows' at their non-smoker rates. At present, the benefit illustration based on current bonus rates continuing throughout would be made up of a sum assured of £2,598, reversionary bonuses of £1,673 and terminals of £2,603, making a total payable of £6,874, equivalent to an

annual return on premiums of 15.8 per cent. Under the new regime, the company could show the sum assured and reversionary bonus, as before, but the bottom line figure would be shown at £4,611 - that is the return on premiums at 10.75 per cent.

For a 25-year term policy with the same details, the total payable would currently be indicated at £41,377 - a return on premiums of 11.8 per cent per annum. But when given the "10.75 per cent" treatment, the ultimate return will be shown as £29,585, dramatically demonstrating the effect of the lower rate of the return on the premiums net of expenses.

The life companies are explicit as to why they have taken this step to rid life illustrations of the "money illusion".



The ABI says: "The market is now facing the prospect of lower inflation rates. In these circumstances lower projections in money terms are more appropriate."

The presentation of illustrations using rates of return, rather than grandiose lump sums which delude people as to their real value in inflationary times, is a step forward and will help people to judge life policies more squarely with other investments, such as building society accounts.

One effect seems certain and this is to bring different life company projections of benefits for similar policies much closer together. This should change the emphasis of competition between life companies to other criteria, such as past performance, financial strength and levels of service.

How life companies will be affected depends on their market position. The Scottish Widows' believes it could be to its advantage, as it has lost business in the past that it would otherwise have gained, as it was often not the company with the highest projections.

Members advised to abide by changes

But this is an agreement between insurers. Intermediaries such as insurance brokers are not party to it. Because they are not bound by it, they are perfectly free to present policy benefits as they see fit and to use the old methods should they wish.

There may be logistical difficulties in getting illustrations on the previous basis as the new system takes hold, but business-hungry intermediaries are entreprising. The British Insurance Brokers' Association, however, is advising its members to abide by the changes.

But the association does question why the ABI brought the new practices in at this point, as the Securities and Investments Board is due to publish rules, expected to be more stringent than the ABI's, on policy benefit illustrations, which could be in force later next year. But the life insurers are adamant that they want this interim arrangement.

One result of having removed bonus illustrations from the arena of inter-company competition may be that life companies can quietly go about reducing their bonus rates behind the screen - something they may have been wanting to do, but lacked the courage actually to carry out.



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YOUR INVESTMENT IN EUROPE The European Growth Trust is a particularly attractive opportunity for you to enjoy the prospect of maximum capital growth through skilled financial management of funds in the European markets. Suitable for investments of £1,000 or more, this is an ideal opportunity for investors wishing to share in the potentially significant returns that Europe offers.

Remember: the price of the units and

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To make your investment, complete and post the application below with your cheque. We must receive this before close of business on November 7th 1986 for your units to be allocated at the initial offer price of 25p each - after that date units will be allocated at the prevailing offer price. For your information the estimated gross starting yield of the European Growth Trust is 0.8% per annum.

- IMPORTANT INFORMATION
1. Unit prices and yields are quoted daily in the national press.
2. The Trust is authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and is constituted by a Trust Deed. It is a "wider range" investment in the sense of the Companies Act 1985.
3. The Trust Deed permits the managers to include in the fund investments in any country, including the Republic of Ireland, but any change of subject to 50% must be made in a single month.
4. See more on all this in our prospectus and October 24th in the national press.
5. An annual level of 1% (plus VAT) of the value of the fund is deducted half yearly from the units as a management charge.
6. The Trust allows for a maximum annual level of 2% (plus VAT) but any charge is subject to 50% must be made in a single month.
7. Applications must be accompanied by a cheque and will be held until the 10th November 1986.
8. On any business day you may sell all or part of your unit holding back to the managers, at no cost to the holder, for a calculation using a formula approved by the Department of Trade, noting that you will receive your instructions. You will then receive a cheque in settlement normally within 7 business days of receipt by the managers.
9. Management: Allied Dunbar Unit Trusts plc is a member of the Unit Trust Association of Great Britain, 100 Abchurch Lane, London, EC4N 3JL. Telephone: (0) 7531 2021.
10. Trustee: Allied Dunbar Bank Trust Co. Ltd.
11. There is no restriction on residence in the Republic of Ireland or to nationals of other countries, residents of companies in the United States of America.

FIRST PUBLIC OFFER EUROPEAN GROWTH TRUST. A fixed price offer open until November 7th 1986. Please post with your cheque to: Allied Dunbar Unit Trust Dealters, FREEPOST, Swindon, SN1 1XZ. I/We wish to invest £... in the Allied Dunbar European Growth Trust at the fixed price of 25p per unit (minimum £1,000) and enclose a remittance payable to Allied Dunbar Unit Trusts plc. If you wish to have net income re-invested please tick box. This offer will close on November 7th 1986. After the close of this offer, units will be at a variable at the daily quoted price. I/We confirm that I/we are aged over 18. Joint applicants must complete details and sign separately. BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE. (Surname) Mr. Mrs. Miss. First name(s). Address. Postcode. Signature. Date. JOINTHOLDER (Surname) Mr. Mrs. Miss. First name(s). Signature. Date. Are you an existing client of Allied Dunbar? Yes No. Name/address of your existing financial advisor. TE/25/20 ALLIED DUNBAR Allied Dunbar Unit Trusts plc Registered in England No. 285988 Registered Office: Allied Dunbar Centre, Swindon, SN1 1EL.

Solid protection, no frills

INSURANCE

You could be forgiven for thinking that term assurance is a secret. Term assurance can provide you with extensive life cover for very modest premiums, yet it rarely receives much attention. **STEVE FRASER** explains why



The explanation: No great incentive for subscribers or commission, says Mark Daniel

The cover is called "term" assurance because you pay for protection for a set period of time, typically for between five and 25 years. It is cheap because it offers protection with very few frills. There is rarely a savings element or a surrender value. The sum assured is paid out only if you die within the term selected.

Term assurance could and should be recommended more often. It is of particular value to families where the cost of cover is critical. It can be arranged to run until retirement when pension provision takes over or perhaps be geared to end when the children have grown up and gained financial independence.

So why is term assurance not promoted more? Mark Daniel, technical manager at Equitable Life, says: "There is not a great incentive for salesmen on commission to sell it." The point is that commission on term assurance is very low as the policies themselves are so cheap.

Three or four types of cover are available. Most companies now offer options to tailor the cover better to your needs.

Discounts offered to non-smokers

though they obviously add to the cost. Your age and the term required, however, are the main factors in determining cost.

Smoking does not help the cause. Substantial discounts are available to non-smokers, particularly older non-smokers.

Level term assurance is the simplest available. The sum assured remains at the same level throughout the policy's life. In other words, if you take out a 10-year policy your wife would receive the same amount if you were to die in 1986 or 1996. Inflation can thus erode the protection you are providing. The cover is very cheap, however.

A 30-year-old man who wants £30,000 cover for the

next 10 years need not pay more than £30 a year. London Life, Equitable Life and Friends' Provident are among a dozen or so companies offering the most competitive rates.

A 45-year-old man looking for the same cover should pay around £100 a year, American Life and Zurich Life being among those with the keenest prices at this age.

Women generally pay less because companies judge them to be three or four years younger than men when working out the premiums. Cover can also be arranged on a joint-lives basis, but should both husband and wife die at the same time, only one sum assured would be payable.

Insurers offer a couple of different ways of coping with inflation. The most obvious is index-linking where the amount of cover increases in line with changes in the Retail Prices Index. As the sum assured increases so do the premiums.

Alternatively, some companies offer "renewable increaseable" contracts where the initial term is shorter, say five years, but you are guaranteed that it can be renewed without evidence of good health. The new policy would be for a higher sum assured to take care of inflation.

It is worth remembering, though, that the increase in effect retrospective and inflation might well have an impact if you were to die in the fourth year of the policy.

Premiums will also go up on each renewal as you are judged on your age as the first. A further point is that as you get older the maximum sum for which the company will insure you may well decrease. If you require a high level of life cover you should check the company's age rules carefully.

Some companies combine the idea of shorter renewable contracts with index-linking. Whichever way the contract is arranged, the base level of premiums will be higher. The added protection can make such policies 20 per cent more expensive than level term cover.

More expensive but more flexibility

Another option which is worth considering is "convertibility". A convertible policy can be changed into, say, a whole life or endowment contract at any time during the term. Again, it is more expensive but offers a good deal more flexibility.

Term assurance can also be used to protect repayment of a reducing debt such as a mortgage or a loan. The premiums remain constant but the sum assured decreases as you pay off the debt. Because you are effectively getting less for the same cost as time goes by, the premiums are among the cheapest available. A 30-year-old man can protect payment of a 25-year mortgage of

£30,000 for less than £40 a year.

If you would prefer to provide your family with an income rather than a lump sum should you die, that can be arranged through a family income policy. The income can be paid monthly, quarterly or annually. Again, premiums are cheap because you get less for the same money as the years pass — the income being payable only for the number of years left in the term selected.

In the past couple of years some other innovative ideas have appeared. Commercial Union was one of the first companies to offer a "cashback" policy where term assurance and an endowment are combined in the same policy. The premiums will be more expensive, but you should get back at least as much as you put in.

A few companies also pay out a percentage of the sum assured should you suffer permanent disablement. City of Westminster is one example.

Term assurance rates in the UK are among the cheapest in the world. The last comparison with our European neighbours — albeit conducted a few years ago — showed that rates in the UK were three times cheaper than in West Germany.

If you want life cover purely for protection, term assurance is the cheapest and most effective way of getting it.

Is the writing on the wall for special sector funds?

Investment fashions — geographical, industrial, sectional — may come and go. The beauty of growth is here to stay.

That's what the FS Balanced Growth Fund was set up to achieve. And no ifs or buts about it — that's the result we keep on producing — month in, month out.

And talking of results, we'd like to congratulate Roger Forster, the winner of this year's Unit Trust Investor of the Year Competition.

As part of his portfolio, he chose the FS Balanced Growth Fund, which was a "vital choice" in his 87% return, a record for the competition since it first began seven years ago.

THE FIGURES

The FS Balanced Growth Fund beat all other unit trusts in its first two years. £1,000 invested in February 1984 was worth £3,073 by February 1986 (offer-to-bid, net income reinvested).

And the fund remains on top. It was the

No 1 unit trust over the 2 years to end September 1986 (Money Management).

So as our performance with the FS Balanced Growth Fund proves, we concentrate on consistent growth time after time.

FS AT MONEY 86

FS would like to welcome you to stand No 297 at the Money 86 Exhibition at Olympia on 30th October to the 2nd November.

It's your chance to talk personally to our team of fund managers, and get to know what lies behind our success. Alternatively contact David Campbell, our Investment Director at the address below.

Freepost, Department TT1, 190 West George Street, Glasgow G2 2PA. Or telephone: 041-332 3132.



BALANCED GROWTH FUND

ACT BEFORE 31st OCT

A 30-YEAR INVESTMENT RECORD

Over the last thirty years you probably could not have held a unit trust with a better performance than M&G SECOND GENERAL.

£1,000 invested at its launch in June 1956 would now be worth £67,208 with all income reinvested, compared with £8,104 from a similar investment in a building society. To have maintained its purchasing power over the period, £1,000 would need to have grown to £8,748.

The British Stockmarket has been strong for a number of years, which is why many investors are now looking at overseas markets for new investment opportunities. But concentration in one particular area can produce very volatile investment results, and this year's high flier can often be next year's poor performer. You should be wary of short-term performance claims, such as the "Over 50% growth in just five months" quoted recently for a European unit trust.

M&G has two International Funds which solve the problem by spreading your investment effectively among the major stockmarkets of the world.

The M&G International Income Fund aims to provide a high income, and one that can be expected to increase over the years, from an international portfolio of equities.

The M&G International Growth Fund aims for all-out capital growth by investing in the major stockmarkets of the world.

If you remain optimistic about the British Stockmarket and want a balanced portfolio, look at M&G SECOND GENERAL, which aims for consistent growth of income and capital from a wide spread of shares mainly in British companies.

Date	M&G SECOND	F.T. Ordinary Index	Building Society
5 June '56	£1,000	£1,000	£1,000
31 Dec '66	£2,996	£2,472	£1,699
31 Dec '76	£7,812	£3,859	£3,437
5 June '86	£67,208	£21,042	£8,104

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an extra interest account offering 12% above the average yearly rate (source: Building Societies Association). M&G SECOND GENERAL figures are realisation values.

To celebrate M&G SECOND's thirty-year performance record we are offering an extra 1% unit allocation if you invest £1,000 or more and 2% if you invest £10,000 or more in any of these three unit trusts before 31st October 1986.

The price of units and the income from them may go down as well as up. This means that unit trusts are a long-term investment and not suitable for money you may need at short notice.

Launch Date	M&G Unit Trust	Building Society
International Income	May '85 £1,244	£1,132
International Growth	Dec '67 £12,200	£4,696

NOTES: All figures include reinvested income net of basic-rate tax. The Building Society figures are based on an extra interest account offering 12% above the average yearly rate (source: Building Societies Association). M&G figures are realisation values.

SPECIAL OFFER CLOSES 31st OCTOBER

All applications for £1,000 or more received by 31st October, 1986 will be given an extra 1% allocation of units, increasing to 2% for applications of £10,000 or more per Fund. To: M&G SECURITIES LIMITED, THREE QUAYS, TOWER HILL, LONDON EC3R 6BQ. Please invest the sum(s) indicated below in the Fund(s) of my choice (minimum investment in each Fund: £1,000) in ACCUMULATION/INCOME units (delete as applicable or Accumulation units will be issued for International Growth and SECOND and Income units will be issued for International Income) at the price ruling on receipt of this application. DO NOT SEND ANY MONEY. A contract note will be sent to you stating exactly how much you owe and the settlement date. Your certificate will follow shortly.

International Income	International Growth	SECOND
£ -00	£ -00	£ -00

INTERNATIONAL INCOME: 1 June 1987, 20 Mar 1987, 15 Feb 1987. INTERNATIONAL GROWTH: 1 Dec 1987, 20 Sep 1987, 15 Aug 1987. SECOND: 1 June 1987, 20 Mar 1987, 15 Feb 1987.

You can buy or sell units on any business day. Contracts for purchase or sale will be due for settlement two to three weeks later. Remuneration is payable to accredited agents; rates are available on request. The Trustee for International Growth is Barclays Bank Trust Co. Limited and for International Income and SECOND GENERAL is Lloyds Bank Plc. The Funds are all wider-range investments and are authorised by the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

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Signature: _____

Date: _____

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FAMILY MONEY/9

Conscience doth make honest profits for us all

INVESTMENT

Some investors will have moral objections to investing in South Africa under the present regime. They may also be opposed to the sale of armaments, tobacco and alcohol, and to animal testing. Religious, political and trade union affiliations may all affect investors' attitudes. What constitutes an ethical investment is very much a personal decision.

With individual shares it is possible, particularly with smaller companies, to monitor their activities. But what happens in the case of pooled investments such as unit trusts or insurance bonds? They may easily have a portfolio of 50 or more holdings and it is obviously impossible for the private investor to examine every share individually.

In answer to this problem ethical funds have sprung up in the United States and indeed have become big business. In his report, *The Financial Initiative*, investment adviser Giles Chitty says "moral" mutual funds have taken off. Socially screened investment is estimated at \$50 billion - equal to 5 per cent of all stock traded on Wall Street.

Following the success of "moral" mutual funds in the United States, Friends Provident launched its Stewardship unit trust in the UK in May 1984. With any investment performance is the key question. Can ethics and profit be partners?

The Stewardship unit trust has risen by 59.1 per cent and 18.2 per cent over two years

The Stewardship fund invests in UK companies whose products, services and operations are regarded as being of long-term benefit to the community both here and overseas.

Investments in companies involved with armaments, gambling, alcohol and tobacco are avoided - so are companies with interests in South Africa. The fund has 2,500 unit-holders.

Investigation of companies is undertaken by the Ethical Investment Research and Information Service (EIRIS). It looks not only at the products or services provided but also at employment practices.

However, one chemical company that meets Buckmaster & Moore's criteria is Yorkshire Chemical. The third largest holding is Parrier, the French mineral water firm.



Attitudes towards local communities, natural resources, pollution control and the political and social environment of countries in which the companies trade or have substantial interests.

All this research is time-consuming, costs money and is reflected in the charges which are higher than average for a UK general fund.

The largest holdings are Marks & Spencer and ASDA/MFI (retail), Reuters (communications), Hazlewoods Foods, and Oxford Instruments, which makes body scanners. The fund is 100 per cent invested in the UK and has an acceptable list of around 270 companies, which have been vetted as meeting the criteria although the fund has only 67 holdings.

TBS is on the acceptable list, so is British Telecom. Glaxo is not. Two other ethical funds with similar investment criteria are the Buckmaster & Moore Fellowship unit trust and the Ethical Investment Fund, both launched in July this year.

The Buckmaster & Moore Fellowship unit trust has comparatively low charges, with a 4 per cent initial and 1 per cent annual charge. The fund is more international than the other "moral" funds.

It is valued at £550,000 and has 24 holdings. Only 50 per cent of the fund is invested in the UK, with the balance split between other equity markets and cash.

Unlike the other funds, Buckmaster & Moore does not have an acceptable list of stocks but has a team of analysts which scrutinizes the shares for suitability. John Fitzmaurice, associate director, admits: "It is extremely difficult checking up on Japanese stocks, for example." There is also a committee of reference.

The largest holding is the French store group, Bazar de l'Hotel, which accounts for 6.7 per cent of the fund. Buckmaster & Moore likes the chemical sector but has difficulty in finding suitable companies as many of them manufacture explosives and herbicides. This means that "blue chips" such as ICI are out. High-quality electronic stocks such as GEC, Plessey and Racal are all out because the fund managers exclude armaments stocks.

However, one chemical company that meets Buckmaster & Moore's criteria is Yorkshire Chemical. The third largest holding is Parrier, the French mineral water firm.

The Ethical Investment Fund is underpinned by Royal Heritage and makes an initial charge of 5 per cent and a monthly charge of 0.125 per cent. Alison MacDonald, the marketing manager, emphasizes that the fund is particularly committed to supporting UK companies.

Tobacco stocks are avoided

and does not invest in any company which has more than 5 per cent of its business overseas.

Like Friends Provident, the Ethical Investment Fund uses EIRIS. The £750,000 fund will not invest in banks. Also excluded are companies making political donations of more than £10,000.

Fidelity Professional Growth trust, while not exactly an "ethical" unit trust, avoids investing in tobacco stocks, so it may be of particular interest to non-smokers. Over one year to October 1, it has risen 14.5 per cent on an offer-to-bid basis.

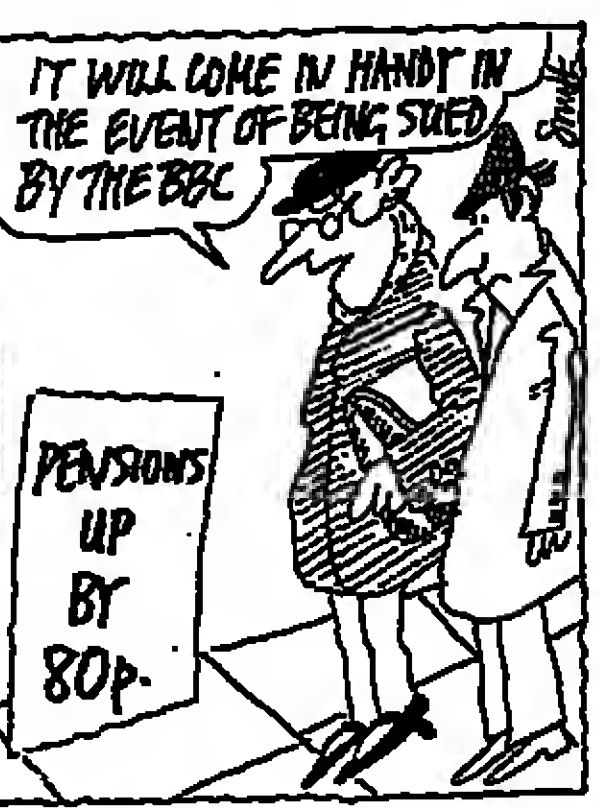
In the last analysis financial gain is regarded by many investors as being at least as important as ethical considerations, but there is no reason why ethical and investment criteria have to be mutually exclusive.

Stephanie Hawthorne

INTEREST RATES ROUND-UP

Banks
Current account - no interest paid.
Deposit accounts - seven days' notice required for withdrawals.
Barclays 5 per cent, Lloyds 5 per cent, Midland 5 per cent, NatWest 5 per cent, National Girobank 5 per cent. Fixed term deposits £10,000 to £24,999 1 month 7.625 per cent, 3 months 7.625 per cent, 6 months 7.50 per cent (National Westminster), 1 month 7.101 per cent, 3 months 7.195 per cent, 6 months 7.195 per cent (Midland). Other banks may differ.

Fund	Net CNAR	Telephone
Aspen Home	7.66 7.94	01 638 8070
B of Scotland	7.85 8.19	01 628 8060
Barclays Higher Rate		
Investment Accounts		
£1,000-9,999	8.83 8.79	01 626 1587
£10,000 & over	7.23 7.19	01 626 1587
Central Allen call	7.56 7.83	01 588 2777
Citicorp		
Money Mkt Plus	7.00 7.23	01 581 1422
NFC Trust 7-day	7.75 7.90	01 236 8391
Henderson Money Market		
Cheque Account	7.85 8.13	01 626 5737
L & G High Int. Dep.	7.25 7.38	01 385 3211
Invest Mkt	7.70 7.83	01 626 5010
M&G MCA	7.75 8.04	01 628 4588
Midland Invest		
£2,000-9,999	7.45 7.86	0742 20599
£10,000 & over	7.70 7.53	0742 20599
Nat West High Int. Spec Reserve		
£2,000-9,999	7.89 7.85	01 726 1000
£10,000 & over	7.75 7.59	01 726 1000
Oppenheimer Money Management Account		
under £10,000	7.75 8.00	01 236 9382
over £10,000	7.85 8.08	01 236 9382
Royal B of Scotland		
Pension Account 7.75 7.90	031 557 0201	
S & P Call	7.50 7.78	0708 69968
Schroeder Wang		
£2,500 to £9,999	7.10 7.34	0705 827733
over £10,000	7.29 7.54	0705 827733
Tulse & Riley call	7.92 8.11	01 225 0532
1 & R 7-day	7.62 7.80	01 236 0932
Tynall call	8.00 8.24	0272 123241
Tynall 7-day	7.87 8.11	0272 123241
UDT 7-day	6.91 7.09	01 826 4661
Western Trust		
1 month	8.04 8.34	0752 251151



National Savings Bank
Ordinary Accounts - If a minimum balance of £100 maintained for whole of 1986, 6 per cent interest p.a. for each complete month where balance is over £500, otherwise 3 per cent. Investment Accounts - 10.75 per cent interest paid without deduction of tax, one month's notice of withdrawal, maximum investment £100,000.

National Savings Income Bond
Minimum investment £2,000, maximum £100,000. Interest 11.25 per cent variable at six weeks' notice paid monthly without deduction of tax. Repayment at 3 months' notice. Penalties in first year.

National Savings Indexed Income Bond
Start rate monthly income for first year, 8 per cent, increased at end of each year to match increase in prices as measured by Retail Prices Index. Cash value remains the same. Income taxable, paid gross. Three months' notice of withdrawal. Minimum investment of £5,000 in multiples of £1,000. Maximum £100,000.

National Savings 4th Index-Linked Certificates
Maximum investment - £5,000

excluding holdings of other issues. Return tax-free and linked to changes in the Retail Prices Index. Supplement of 3.00 per cent in the first year, 3.25 per cent in the second, 3.50 per cent in the third, 4.50 per cent in the fourth and 6.00 per cent in the fifth. Value of Retirement Issue Certificates purchased in October 1981, £146.76, including bonus and supplement. September RPI 387.8. (The new RPI figure is not announced until the third week of the following month).

National Savings Certificate
31st issue. Return totally free of income and capital gains tax, equivalent to an annual interest rate over the five-year term of 7.85 per cent, maximum investment £10,000. General extension rate for holders of earlier issues which have reached maturity is 8.01 per cent.

National Savings Yearly Plan
A one-year regular savings plan converting into four-year savings certificates. Minimum £20 a month, maximum £200. Return over five years 8.19 per cent, tax-free.

National Savings Deposit Bond
Minimum investment £100, maximum £100,000. Interest 11.25 per cent variable at six weeks' notice credited annually without deduction of tax. Repayment at three months' notice. Half interest only paid on bonds repaid during first year.

Local Authority Yearling Bonds
12 months fixed rate investments interest 11 per cent basic rate tax deducted at source (can be reclaimed by non-taxpayers), minimum investment £1,000, purchased through stockbroker or bank.

Guaranteed Income Bonds
Return paid net of basic rate tax; higher rate taxpayers may have a further liability on maturity. 1.2 & 3 years New Direction Finance/Credit & Commerce, 9 per cent; 4 & 5 yrs Pinnacle 9.25 per cent.

Local authority town hall bonds
Fixed term, fixed rate investments, interest quoted net (basic rate tax deducted at source non-reclaimable) 1yr Leicester 7.48 per cent, min inv £500; 2&3yrs Bristol 8.25 per cent; 7yrs Hereford & Worcester 7 per cent, min inv £1,000; 8yrs Vale of Glamorgan 6.13 per cent, min inv £500; 9&10yrs East Ey 6.21 per cent, min inv £1,000.

Further details available from Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy, Loans Bureau (858 6361 between 10am and 2.30pm) see also Prestel no 24808.

Building Societies
Ordinary share accounts - 5.25 per cent. Extra interest accounts usually pay 1-2 per cent over ordinary share rate. Rates quoted above are those most commonly offered. Individual building societies may quote different rates. Interest on all accounts paid net of basic rate tax. Not repayable by non-taxpayers.

Foreign currency deposits
Rates quoted by Rothschild's Old Court International Reserves 0481 26741. Seven days' notice is required for withdrawal and no charge is made for withdrawing currencies.
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US dollar 5.08 per cent
Yen 3.50 per cent
3.99 per cent
French Franc 7.25 per cent
Swiss Franc 2.17 per cent

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*Source Money Management figures are the offer to bid unit price growth over three years as published in the October issue

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The power behind the glory of Mansell

Nigel Mansell strengthened his chances of winning the world Formula One championship with the fastest first practice time in Adelaide yesterday. Brian James examines the multi-million pound Williams project behind the Briton.

According to Mrs Rosanne Mansell, it is quite wrong to suggest that her husband needs to become motor racing's new world champion in Adelaide tomorrow to add to his riches and finally achieve real fame. "Make his name?" she says with a touch of indignation. "Listen, Nigel has already been on a Question of Sport."

It is homespun remarks like that which have made Mrs Nigel Mansell the favourite of the teaming crew that works the pit of the Canon Williams Honda team. As the hours tick away to the final crucial round of this year's championship, she has the ability to calm his anxieties with a word and reduce his occasional attempts to act the star with a glance. It is a devoted partnership, a pleasure to watch.

But this time she is wrong, on course. When Mansell walked to the departure at Heathrow last weekend he was asked for his autograph just once. Only one other passerby was sure enough of the recognition to call out, "Good luck." If he returns with the title, the first Briton to achieve this in 10 years, he will begin to make an impact on public awareness that will not be measured in appearances on television quiz shows. Rosanne Mansell, very sensibly, will never be quite sure whether that is a reward or a penalty.

The winning or losing of this championship will affect a great many more people than the Mansells. It will provoke celebrations in boardrooms as far distant as Japan, affect the marketing plans of companies engaged in such diverse activities as making computers and cosmetics, and make all but the most stone-hearted think very hard about a man who is not among us.

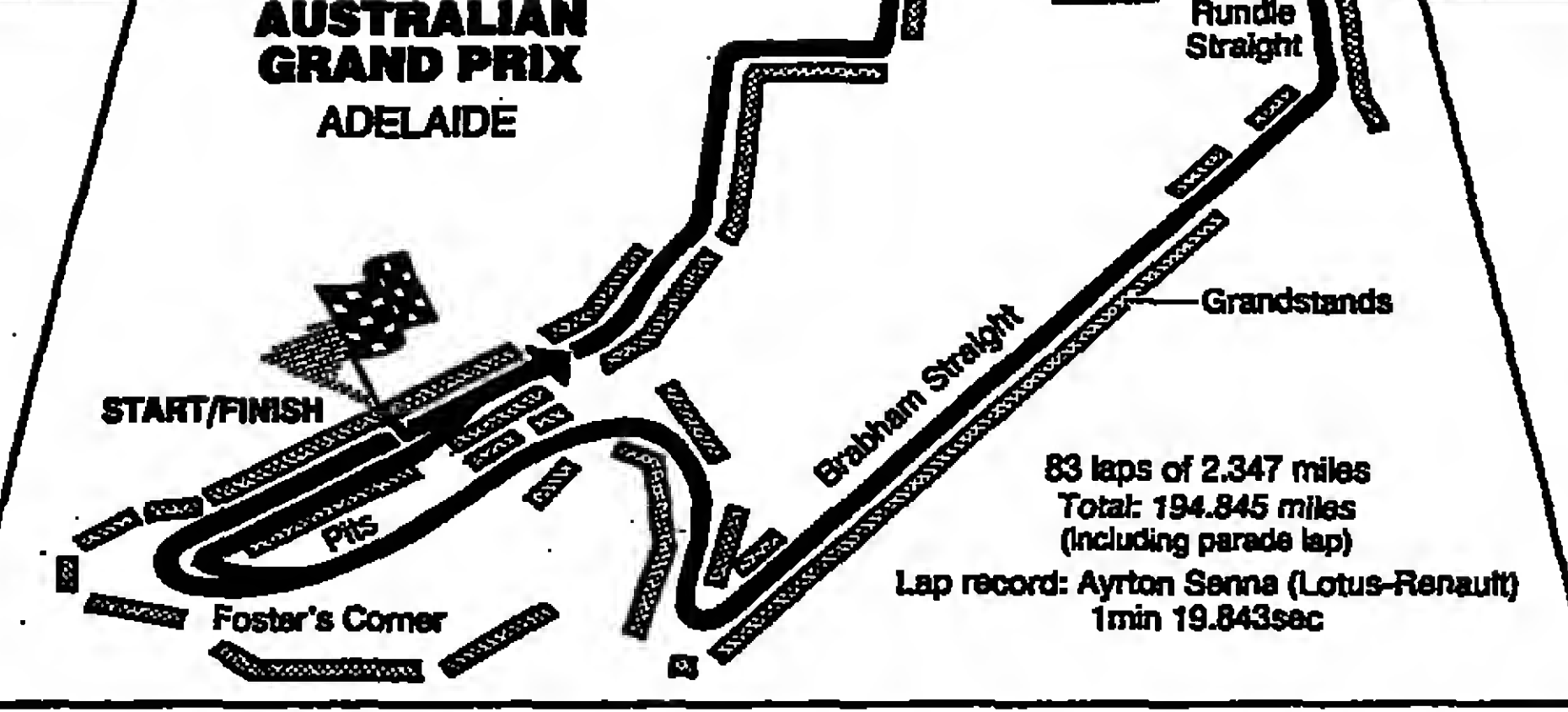
Frank Williams, the creator of this team, is still fighting hard to recover the use of limbs paralysed in a road car crash last month. In the likely event of one of the two drivers he chose becoming champion, he will not be there to share the acclaim. He has had precious few other rewards for his shrewdness. In a sport



The Canon Williams-Honda team: 1 Nigel Mansell; 2 Nelson Piquet; 3 Dave Stubbs, race team manager; 4 Ken Sagar, truck driver and in charge of spares; 5 John Westwood, Piquet's No. 1 mechanic; 6 Rob Campbell, Piquet's No. 2 mechanic; 7 Les Jones, test team mechanic; 8 Peter Windsor, public affairs manager; 9 Frank Dornie, aerodynamicist and Piquet's engineer; 10 Jerry Bond, No. 1 mechanic on spare car; 11 Grant Gibson, Mansell's No. 1 mechanic; 12 John Reardon, Piquet's No. 3 mechanic; 13 Jim Poole, wheel and tyre expert and truck driver; 14 Michael Jakeman, gearbox mechanic; 15 Stewart Prattley, No. 3 mechanic on spare car; 16 Patrick Head, designer and Mansell's engineer; 17 Jim Walter, truck driver and in charge of spares; 18 Ken Sibley, Lotus's No. 3 mechanic; 19 Alan Challis, chief mechanic.

company employs 105 staff, builds 95 per cent of the car which seats the Honda engine. After a rocky 18 months when the current set-up was being established it is now close to becoming the most successful team of all time. Williams won the constructors' championship in 1980, 1981 and again this season, added the drivers' championship in 1980 and 1982 and have two of the three remaining contenders for this year's crown.

Queen's Award for industry was one sort of reward. A vastly complex formula, involving points won, practice times, past performance and drawing power, gives Williams all sorts of privileges in pit positions, travel concessions and a sizeable share of the sport's prize fund. But all of that would not add up to more than \$1 million a year. The rest must come from parcelling out more carefully measured inches of the team's facade as an advertising medium.



speed on painting and re-painting the cars. Then there is Dezin, the Italian-based male cosmetics company. The macho image of Formula One is a great selling tool, and both drivers wear the logo on the back of their overalls, on throat badges, helmets, backs of the gloves and forearms - sites prized by the franchise of a high priced television show. The few spare remaining inches on the car are allotted to Calma, a computer company that aids the team's engineering, and Austria-Rover, as reward for supplying the team's road transport.

Curiously, while Piquet's helmet and overall is "owned" by the team, Mansell retains the rights to about 50 per cent of his own uniform. At the moment his basic fees are said to be about \$750,000 per season, perhaps a quarter of Piquet's own pay. The championship will place the Briton instantly into the salary range of Piquet, Prost and Senna, the sport's best-rewarded men.

They are rewarded, of course, for the risks they accept. A new trend in the sport may now begin to make millionaires of the engineering geniuses who design the best vehicles. The talk in the pit lanes is of a designer lured back to Britain from the United States for \$1 million.

If races are won on the track, they can be lost in the pits: the Williams team reckons to change all four tyres in seven seconds, that is twice as fast as slower rivals. Effectively, at half a second a lap differential, that means it would take the best driver 15 laps to catch the worst if his pit team let him down. Every

member of the Williams staff (including cleaners and clerks) gets a bonus for every racing point won. If they wanted to make money with their spanners, Challis says, "they'd be better off running their own business in some back street. There's no overtime, you work all night if that is what the job needs, and often the satisfaction is snatched away because some daft driver goes and dents something you've just got right. But the feeling when it's your bloke who takes the flag is something you couldn't put value on."

Just about everything else in racing has a price, however. Williams have just spotted another bit of valuable, saleable space. They have noticed that winning drivers tend to come back down the straight punching both arms in the air for the crowd and the cameras. Offers will be considered, after a successful Sunday afternoon drive through Adelaide streets, for the underside of Nigel Mansell's arms.

TOP OF THE TABLE

Nigel Mansell, Great Britain, Williams, 70 points.
Ayrton Senna, Brazil, Lotus, 55.
Keke Rosberg, Finland, McLaren, 22.
Stefan Johansson, Sweden, Ferrari, 19.
Gonard Berger, Austria, Benetton, 17.
Achilles Giallari, France, Ligier, 11.
Rene Arnoux, France, Ligier, 11.
Michael Alboreto, Italy, Ferrari, 11.
Martin Brundle, Great Britain, Tyrrell, 5.

BOXING

Harris in way of McKenzie ambitions

By Srikumar Sen, Boxing Correspondent

Tony McKenzie, of Leicester, who so spectacularly stopped Clinton McKennie in three rounds to win the British light-welterweight title last month, defends against Mike Harris, of Swansea, at the Stevenage Leisure Centre today.

If he wins quickly again he could be back in the ring next month for his third defence. "He wants to win the Lonsdale Belt outright in record time," Ken Squires, his manager, said yesterday. "If he does a quick job, you'll see him next month defending again. You can lose the British title but you cannot lose the belt."

It is unlikely, however, that the champion will be able to see off the Welshman quite so easily. The score between these two stands at 1-1, McKenzie avenging an earlier defeat.

Harris is a capable boxer with five draws in 23 bouts against McKenzie's record of 17-3. McKenzie has the heavier punch but the British title could bring that little extra out of the counter-punching Harris to make life difficult for the champion, perhaps even swinging things the challenger's way. "Tony would love Harris to come forward. Harris is a strong and the way boxer but Tony can box too if he has to," Squires said. The bout should go the distance with McKenzie's stronger finish telling in the end.

It will be nice to see Andy Straghan in the ring again. He has style, grace and class. If only he would put his beautiful shoes together more often in contests. In the ring he looks like one of the forgotten "now-was-was-doing" fighters. But with the British cruiserweight title at stake and Tee Jay, of Clapham, after him, he should not have too much difficulty remembering.

Defending Croydon's Duke McKenzie is to defend his European flyweight title against Giampiero Pinna, of Italy.

BASEBALL

Boston are one win from title

Boston (Reuters) - The Boston Red Sox moved to within one game of their first World Series championship in 68 years by beating the New York Mets 4-2 on Thursday night behind the artful pitching of Bruce Hurst.

Hurst's victory, claimed at the expense of the Mets' best starting pitcher, Dwight Gooden, gave Boston a three games to two lead in the best-of-seven series. The series moves back to New York, where the Mets will start the third game tonight. Boston ended a string of four successive wins for the visiting team by treating their Fenway Park supporters to a 12-inning thriller.

RUGBY UNION: THE LAST WEEKEND FOR ENGLAND'S SELECTORS TO MAKE ADJUSTMENTS TO THEIR WORLD CUP TRAINING SQUAD

Southern touch to Rugby's revival

It is Rodney Webb says, the most important game that Rugby has played in the last 10 years (David Hands writes). Webb, the former England wing, is one of the men who have helped the revival of the game to a revival this season but he knows as well as anyone how elusive genuine success can be. Hence the value he places on today's John Player Special Cup second-round tie with Blackheath at Webb Ellis Road. The cup can provide ambition and publicity which might otherwise take years to achieve, and Rugby, with years of disappointment behind them, hope to take advantage of a London side weakened by a string of injuries.

- Coventry v Moseley**
The only John Smith's merit table game of the day sees Hickey return to the Moseley back row after a thigh injury. Travers plays on the Bank for Coventry, who bring in Davies at hooker for the unavailable Farrington.
- Rosslyn Pk v Headingly**
Grant Paine, a Queenslander, makes his debut at centre for Rosslyn in the Bank. Hobbs and Anderson join the backs. Brooks the forwards against a much-changed Headingly, who have Joyce back for his first game since September.
- Waterloo v Saracens**
Unbeaten Saracens have Holmes back at stand-off half and Khala at flank but are without their injured hooker, Jones. Waterloo, unbeaten in the merit table, have Cotter (a former Saracens) and Heslop back on the wings.
- Bristol v London Scottish**
Jeremy Macklin returns to lead Scottish in this fixture, re-arranged because of today's match. Rhodes and Head play in the pack. Watt is on the wing against a reshuffled Bristol pack which includes Hone and Crane in the back row.
- Neath v S Wales Police**
Jonathan Davies, the Welsh stand-off half, plays his first game for six weeks after recovering from a knee injury. He is joined in the Neath side by Gnojek and Gregory, who hooks because Phillips is on representative duty and Richards' replacement.
- Richmond v Camb Univ**
Francis Clough has recovered from a thigh injury and leads Cambridge against the team which narrowly overcame Oxford University last week. Clough, who has a London Scottish member.

Clubs enjoy the final calm before the winter's clutter

This is the last uncluttered weekend that English rugby clubs will enjoy for some time. Next Thursday, England's World Cup training squad departs for Portugal with some three dozen players, and that is followed by the three designated Saturdays when county rugby may be played, largely affecting the north and south-west. A brief break, and then we are into the divisional championship, which virtually takes care of the rest of the year. It will be, therefore, a good opportunity for the selectors to make final adjustments. If any are required, to the training squad. It is hoped that Hanaford, the Gloucester scrum half, will be fit to travel, but it remains to be seen whether he will be fit to play for Bath against US Ports on Saturday. He was due to play for Bath against US Ports on Saturday but has been unable to ride himself of a long-standing back injury which, it was hoped, an injection would cure. He remains optimistic about joining the England squad, but the training camp will be no picnic when they put the players through the paces over four days. Martin Green and Des Seabrook, the England coaches, will have the assistance of Alan Davies, the Bath team coach. Tom McBain, their coaching officer, and Don Rutherford, the RFU's technical administrator. Two of England's leading clubs go to Wales today, but several national squad men will be missing. Harlequins play Cardiff without Rose, their full back who suffered a dead leg last weekend, and Salmon, the centre who has a groin strain. Leicester visit Swansea without Evans, their right wing, who withdrew yesterday with an Achilles injury sustained during the midweek win over Oxford University. Quite properly, in view of the long season which is ahead, potential England players are allowing their injuries to mend and limiting their appearances. Some, like Dooley, the flyde lock, started the season quietly and are now making up for lost time. He has been picked for Lansdowne next Wednesday against Yorkshire (as has Nick Simms, younger brother of Kevin, the England centre) and Colclough, who plays for Swansea. Leicester have brought in Williams to replace Evans and there will be a confusion of Robertes at hooker at St Helen's David of Swansea will oppose Harry of Leicester and both sides are likely to field six internationals, unless Dacey, the former Welsh stand-off half, has to give best to strained stomach muscles.

Ulster without Matthews

Phillip Matthews is out of the Ulster side that meets Munster in Cork this afternoon. Matthews is suffering from a tendon trouble which will keep him out of the side for the middle of the back row goes to a fellow international, David Morrow (Bangor). The deposed Irish captain, Cianar Fitzgerald, due to lead Connacht against Leinster in Galway today, failed a fitness test, also on an Achilles tendon, and has withdrawn. He is replaced by Brendan Deegan from the Connacht side. Carthy (UCG) taking over the captaincy. On the Leinster side Ronan Kearney is a non-starter and Mark Ryan, the Lansdowne wing forward, who played against Llanelli recently, takes over. While moving to the flank, Frater makes his debut in the centre for the unavailable Millar. Heriot's, who were tipped as strong challengers for the McEwan's Trophy, lost their opening game West of Scotland and slipped badly last weekend. They ring the changes in their back division with Steven and Stephen coming into the centre. Stevenson is at fullback while Livingstone, who last year played at prop, fills the No. 8 position this term. Their opponents, Glasgow Academicals, make one change as Kerr is on holiday. He is replaced in the centre by Garry. Stewart/McIvlie, another fancied side, have been hard-hit by injury. Their captain, Brewster, hopes to make an early return from his elbow injury and this afternoon Mackenzie, Simon Scott and Gibson return to their back division. Frame replaces Goudie who has a serious knee injury at No. 8. Jed Farrell, the international scrum half, in their 16-strong team. The fortunes of Watsonians and Melrose, who meet at Myreside, could not be more contrasting. The home side have swept all before them, are on full points and can afford to strengthen their line-up by bringing in a winger, Ian Smith. Melrose, on the other hand, have no points, are beset with injury and have added their experienced hooker, Runciman, who has sustained a facial injury, to add to their ever-lengthening casualty list.

Llanelli backs can lift Welsh game

While the other home countries will have played some form of international competition before Christmas and France will face Romania today and Russia and New Zealand over the next couple of weeks, Wales have to make do with a more junior level of competition with Wales B playing France B at Pontypridd on Saturday. The sifting process, which began with the tours to the South Seas and Italy during the summer, goes on for Tony Gray, the Welsh national coach. With this game and the trial on December 6, he will want to be clear in his mind of the players he wishes to take into the five nations championship in the New Year. The withdrawal of Arthur Emyr (wing) and David Fox (hooker) from the original selection will have disrupted his preparations only slightly. Gray has ignored the temptation to take up the option to include four full international players, although not customary for the future, was mutually agreed on this occasion. France have done so using their quota to include Codorniu, who, at age 28, has played 31 times for his country, the first in 1979. He will be partnered by Andreau, who has played twice. Sallerfrange, the full back, and the prop, Portolan, are the two others. Five of the team come from Toulouse, the French champions, and if that might be thought to give a solid backbone to the team, the same could be said of the Llanelli contingent in the Welsh team. There are six of them. As a team they may not be

Hartop's return merely academic

Hawick, the Scottish champions, with only their captain, Easton, unavailable, meet an on-form Edinburgh Academicals at Mansfield Park today. The visitors have Hartop, a former Hawick player, in the centre, where he will be in opposition to Murray, who hopes to be fit in spite of having an ear stitched last weekend. Ayr, who have yet to win a game in this season's McEwan's National League, are at home to unbeaten Gala. The Millstone side shuffle their pack with Templeton moving from lock to tight-head prop. McAllum shifts forward to lock. Brown moves to No. 8 and McHarg returns from injury to fill the vacant slot on the flank. Gala have Cunningham at tight-head, Hunter at No. 8 with

Portfolio Gold

Times Portfolio Gold rules are as follows: 1. Times Portfolio is free. Purchase of the Times is not a condition of taking part. 2. Times Portfolio is a weekly competition. 3. The prize is a £1000 cash prize. 4. The prize is awarded to the winner of the weekly competition. 5. The prize is awarded to the winner of the weekly competition. 6. The prize is awarded to the winner of the weekly competition. 7. The prize is awarded to the winner of the weekly competition. 8. The prize is awarded to the winner of the weekly competition. 9. The prize is awarded to the winner of the weekly competition. 10. The prize is awarded to the winner of the weekly competition.

TODAY'S RUGBY TEAM NEWS

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- Richmond v Camb Univ**
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DONCASTER

Table with 2 columns: Selections and By Our Newmarket Correspondent. Lists race numbers and names like 1.15 Hilton Brown, 1.45 Plague O'Rats, etc.

Guide to our in-line racecard

103 (12) 6-4432 TIMEFORM (CD, BF) (Mrs J Fyfe) B Hall 6-10-0 ... B West (4) 68 7-2

Going: good, round course; good to soft, straight Draw: low numbers best

1.15 LONG JOHN SCOTCH WHISKY HANDICAP EUROPEAN APPRENTICE CHAMPIONSHIP (€3,388: 7) (11 runners)

Race 1.15 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

FORM SI SHIGNOR, off the course since July, earlier (8-9) 3 runner-up to Gray Deane (9-9) in York...

1.45 YORKSHIRE TELEVISION NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: €4,480: 7) (21 runners)

Race 1.45 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

FORM PEATSWOOD SHOOTER (8-11) had Thursday's Horris Hill winner, Naheez, behind when running on 1/2...

2.15 WILLIAM HILL FUTURITY STAKES (Group 1: 2-Y-O: €44,120: 1m) (11 runners)

Race 2.15 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

FORM ARABIAN SHEIK (8-11) had Thursday's Horris Hill winner, Naheez, behind when running on 1/2...

2.45 SOLAGLAS ENERGY SAVERS HANDICAP (€5,400: 6) (15 runners)

Race 2.45 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

FORM CATHERINES WILD (8-11) beaten 1/4 in 4th by Handsome Sailor (9-5) at York, a below par...

3.45 ELMFIELD PARK STAKES (€2,070: 2m 2) (12 runners)

Race 3.45 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

4.15 VARIETY CLUB 'SUNSHINE COACH' MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: €3,782: 6) (23 runners)

Race 4.15 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Table listing course specialists with columns: Name, Runs, Wins, etc.

Suhailie can give Cecil sixth Futurity triumph

In an attempt to win the William Hill Futurity for the sixth time at Doncaster today, Henry Cecil will be saddling Reference Point in addition to Suhailie.

Steve Cauthean has put his own judgement on the line by picking the unbeaten Suhailie, who recently broke the track record at Haydock when he won the Dream Mile.

Cauthean's decision was influenced to some extent by Suhailie's greater experience. Also he is probably the easier ride as Reference Point is renowned for his laziness.

Like Cecil, John Dunlop will be two-handed in his attempt to win the race for the first time. A fast-finishing second in the Somerville Tattersall Stakes at New-



Arctic Bear (left) is led over the last by I Haventlight in the Rosy Brook Chase at Newbury yesterday but got up to force a dead-heat. Report and results, page 41

HUNTINGDON

2.0 General Concorde, 2.30 Ishkoman, 3.0 Anoch, 3.30 Minstrel, 4.0 Landing Board, 4.30 Jenny Wylie.

Selections By Mandarin

2.0 General Concorde, 2.30 Ishkoman, 3.0 Anoch, 3.30 Minstrel, 4.0 Landing Board, 4.30 Jenny Wylie.

Going: good

2.00 TROTTER NOVICE HURDLE (€987: 2m 100y) (16 runners)

Race 2.00 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

2.30 TEROFORM NOVICE CHASE (€1,570: 2m 5f) (11)

Race 2.30 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

3.00 TEROSON HURDLE (€2,583: 2m 100y) (4)

Race 3.00 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

4.00 TEROXET HANDICAP (€1,532: 2m 200y) (9)

Race 4.00 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

4.30 TEROFORM NOVICE HURDLE (€980: 2m 100y) (11)

Race 4.30 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Table listing course specialists with columns: Name, Runs, Wins, etc.

NEWBURY

Table with 2 columns: Selections and By Our Newmarket Correspondent. Lists race numbers and names like 1.30 Perfect Timing, 2.00 Indian Hal, etc.

Michael Seely's selection: 3.00 VERD-ANTIQUE (nap). The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.30 SUPREME ROSE.

Going: good to soft Draw: no advantage

1.30 MECCA BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP (€8,500: 6) (14-runners)

Race 1.30 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

FORM PERFECT TIMING is improving and carried 7 lb penalty to a 1/2 m (9-11) over Oak Jubilee (9-11) at Newmarket (6-25), good, Oct 18. 24 ran. JOHN PATRICK (9-2) was out of the 11, first...

2.0 THAMES VALLEY EGGS HANDICAP (€7,387: 1m 3f) (18 runners)

Race 2.0 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

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2.30 DICK DAWSON STAKES (2-Y-O: €5,663: 1m) (24 runners)

Race 2.30 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

3.0 ST SIMON STAKES (Group III: €16,905: 1m 4f) (9 runners)

Race 3.0 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

FORM KAZAROUN (9-3) made all and dictated the pace to suit him, eventually beating HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN (8-10) a comfortable 2 at Ascot (11-4), €27,750, good to firm, Sept 25, 4 ran.

3.30 OCTOBER NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: €4,584: 6f) (17 runners)

Race 3.30 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

FORM KAZAROUN (9-3) made all and dictated the pace to suit him, eventually beating HIGHLAND CHIEFTAIN (8-10) a comfortable 2 at Ascot (11-4), €27,750, good to firm, Sept 25, 4 ran.

4.0 LETCOMBE HANDICAP (€5,520: 1m) (27 runners)

Race 4.0 table with columns: No, Name, Age, Sex, Trainer, Odds, etc.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

Table listing course specialists with columns: Name, Runs, Wins, etc.

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Valuable enjoy h

SATURDAY

TELEVISION AND RADIO

SUNDAY

Edited by Peter Dear and Christopher Davalle

Sailors tell of dirty deed in the doldrums

From Barry Pickard, Cape Town

With a single... The BBC is trying to keep us awake to watch the Australian Grand Prix (3.20am) with three movies...

From East to West (BBC 2, 8.25pm) takes 13 Steps Around Toru Takemitsu...

The White Sheik (BBC 2, 11.50pm) features Alberto Sordi as the dashing model for...

CHOICE

a romantic comic-strip, sought out by a naive young bride...

William Davis visits The Real Dallas (Radio 4, 4pm), including the real Southfork Ranch...



Royal performance: rock group Queen in a link-up between TV and 45 independent radio stations (Ch4, 11.00pm)



Keyboard whizz: Sean Edwards as Freak in Smart Money, a thriller set in the world of computer fraud (BBC1, 9.05)

CHOICE

World Safari (BBC2, 8pm) is an ambitious celebration of wildlife around the globe...

Everyman - the Frontiers of Peace (BBC2, 10.35pm) is a documentary on the 5 million Jains of India...

The Return of the Antelope (ITV, times vary), brings the further adventures of three Lilliputians in Victorian England...

Pendennis (Radio 4, 7pm) is a new serialisation in 8 parts of the novel by William Makepeace Thackeray...

BBC 1

- 8.30 The Family News. Cartoons 8.35 The Muppet Babies. 9.00 Saturday Superstore...

BBC 2

- 9.00 Cee-fax. 11.25 Open University. 1.30 Cee-fax. 2.00 Film: Deception (1946)...

TV-AM

- 6.55 TV-am introduced by Richard Keys. Weather at 6.58; news at 7.00; sport at 7.15...

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 A Question of Economics. Part two - is Britain Going Bust? (r) 9.50 4 What It's Worth...

BBC 1

- 8.55 Play School. 9.15 Articles of Faith with the Rev Emmanuel Jacob. 9.30 Talking Business...

BBC 2

- 8.00 Cee-fax. 10.10 Open University. 11.00 Grand Prix Highlights. Highlights of the race in Adelaide...

TV-AM

- 6.55 TV-am begins with Sunday Commuter. 7.00 Are You Awake Yet? 7.25 Wax Express...

CHANNEL 4

- 9.25 Sunday East. Magazine programme for Asian viewers. Followed by Desaveena. A drama serial set in a Pakistani village...

Radio 1

On medium wave. Stereo on VHF (see below). News on the hour until 1.00pm...

Radio 2

On medium wave. Stereo on VHF. News on the hour until 1.00pm...

WORLD SERVICE

6.00 Newscast. 7.00 News. 7.05 Twenty-four Hours. 7.30 From the Weeklies. 7.45 Network UK...

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Overture. At the Tabard Inn. Allegri, Miserere...

Radio 4

On long wave. (S) Stereo on VHF. 6.55 Shipping. 8.00 News briefing. Weather 8.10 Pretude...

Radio 3

Brahms, Piano Concerto No 2. Schubert and Berg. With Mitsuko Shirai (singer) and Hermann Hertz (piano)...

Radio 4

Mika Fleck, Mike Knapik, Anna Daxor, Nigel Fry and Martin Brown (s) 12.55 Weather...

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On medium wave. Stereo on VHF (see below). News on the hour until 1.00pm...

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Radio 4

On long wave. (S) Stereo on VHF. 6.55 Shipping. 8.00 News briefing. Weather 8.10 Pretude...

Radio 3

Hindemith's Quartet No 3 (1924). 12.15 Strauss. Symphonies. Strauss, Don Quixote...

Radio 4

2.00 News. Gardeners' Question Time visits the Cusworth Hall Horticultural Society...

Radio 3

6.55 Weather. 7.00 News. 7.05 Beethoven Conducts. Mozart, Symphony No 35...

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SPORT

Mansell achieves fastest time after early crash

Nigel Mansell provoked the first gasps and ended with the last laugh when practice for the Australian Grand Prix began yesterday. Within a few minutes of beginning the first, untimed practice he was watching his car being towed away after clipping a wall and sliding into the fence.

From Brian James, Adelaide

Brian James on the team behind Mansell, page 39

CRICKET Crowe in threat of withdrawal

Wellington (Reuters) - The New Zealanders' Martin Crowe, said yesterday that he would not play in England if Somerset's members overturned the county committee's decision to sign him in place of Viv Richards and Joel Garner.

FOOTBALL Seven-month wait over for Southall

Neville Southall, whose outstanding career was seriously jeopardized by severe ankle ligament injuries seven months ago, returns today to senior football for Everton against Watford at Goodison Park.

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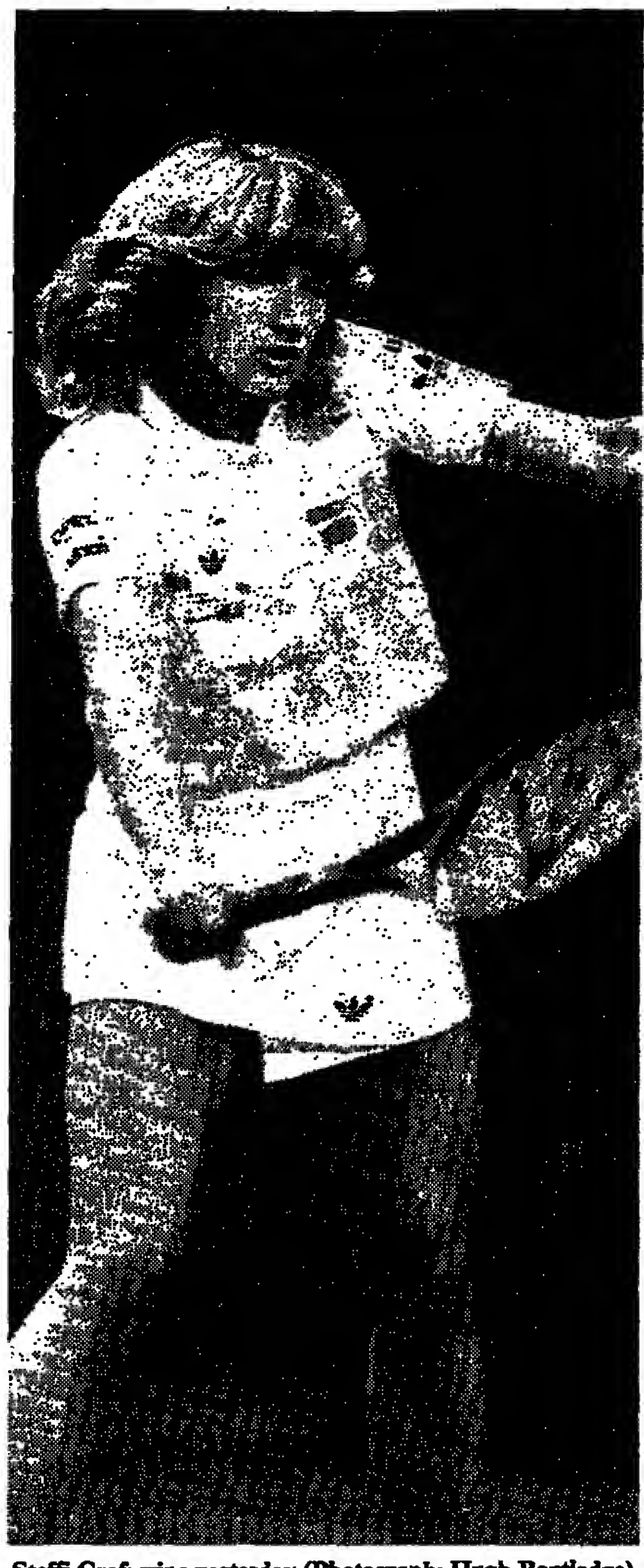
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Glasgow's battle of the giants

Events in this week's European matches have conspired to make Celtic slight favourites to beat Rangers in the Skol Cup Final at Hampden tomorrow.

Graf gets last laugh

By Rex Bellamy Tennis Correspondent Rosalyn Fairbank, of Durban, has beaten two speeds, Manuela Maleeva and Jo Durie, to qualify for a semi-final with Steffi Graf in the Pretty Polly tournament at the Brighton Centre.



Steffi Graf: wins yesterday (Photograph: Hugh Routledge)

Miss Fairbank ranks 34th among singles players and 14th in doubles, a craft in which she maintains a South African tradition. Her game has matured a good deal in the past few years. She is a sound and shrewd player who knows where to go - and also knows where the ball needs to go.

The other match may have hinged on the 14-point seventh game of the second set, in which Miss White had six game points but Miss Graf broke through to lead 4-3.

at Flushing Meadow, amid abuse and laughter, would have taken some such form as "Get dat bum outa here!" But as Graf's supporters were far from home, had paid £5.50 each to watch her play, and decided to discipline their enthusiasm, "I think it was not correct for him to say that," Miss Graf suggested.

Miss White was less sympathetic. With Miss Graf at the

The inspired in pursuit of the invincible

For two years the Great Britain coach, Maurice Bamford, has nurtured a dream: to beat the allegedly invincible Australians in an international match. This afternoon, in the series' first international sponsored by Whitbread Trophy at Old Trafford, Bamford put his dream and two years of meticulous planning, to the test.

When Bamford took over from Frank Myler in October 1984 he inherited a demoralized Great Britain squad who had just suffered the indignity of a complete whitewash on the tour of Australia and New Zealand. Confidence was at its nadir and Great Britain were being dubbed one of the also-rans on the international circuit, a bitter pill for the country where rugby league was born.

Attendance record may be broken

With more than 26,000 seats sold in advance for the international there is a strong possibility that the attendance at Old Trafford will be a record for a Great Britain v Australia game in this country, beating the previous best of just over 42,000.

talkingly, to put them all together again. He formed a team of manager, Les Bettinson, assistant coach, Phil Larder, physiotherapist, Mike Stabler, and fitness expert, Rod McKenzie.

Matches against France were used as stalking horses for the internationals against New Zealand last year in which Great Britain at last received a boost to their morale with an exciting draw series.

Now comes the test after two years of repeated squad

GOLF Determined Lyle shares early lead

Not even Sandy Lyle could camouflage the importance of victory in the Portuguese Open as he retained a share of the lead at the halfway stage of the course here yesterday.

who emerged as the first winner by moving past Severiano Ballesteros to secure the Cannes Open. It would be a tribute to Bland's ability, at the age of 41, to successfully continue commuting from his farm near Johannesburg if he now ended the season by taking on and beating Lyle.

Card of course

Table with 4 columns: Hole, Mtrs, Par, Hole, Mtrs, Par. Row 1: 1, 410, 4, 10, 390, 4. Row 2: 2, 190, 3, 11, 500, 5. Row 3: 3, 485, 4, 12, 367, 4. Row 4: 4, 325, 4, 13, 171, 3. Row 5: 5, 383, 4, 14, 505, 5. Row 6: 6, 320, 3, 15, 350, 4. Row 7: 7, 375, 4, 16, 183, 3. Row 8: 8, 510, 5, 17, 385, 4. Row 9: 9, 413, 4, 18, 355, 4.

For what is driving Lyle on at the end of a hectic European schedule is the knowledge that for the first time since his breakthrough victory in 1979, he is on the brink of completing a year without a win on his home circuit. It is an extraordinary and frustrating situation to be in only 15 months after celebrating his Open Championship success at Royal St George's and Lyle is clearly anxious to end this campaign on a winning note.

Lyle has not dropped a shot in 36 holes on a course which might offer scope for aggressive golf but at the same time can punish those players who stray from the tree-lined fairways. Lyle made only one putt of any real consequence, holing in from 30 feet for his birdie at the 16th, and he compiled his score by taking a conservative approach. Even so, he is now 64 under par for his last three and one half tournaments.

Stephen moves up for a share of lead

Adelaide (Reuters) - The Australian, Lyndsay Stephen, scored a 68, four under par, yesterday to share the third-round lead with his compatriot, David Graham, in the South Australian Open championship.

SNOOKER Francisco downs Knowles

By Sydney Friskin

Silvino Francisco, of South Africa, reached the semi-finals of the Rothmans Grand Prix tournament at Reading yesterday with a 5-2 victory over Tony Knowles, ranked No. 4 in the world.

Knowles arrived at the venue in haste after a timely discovery but his match was in the afternoon, not at night, and Francisco, more composed, won the first frame comfortably. Then Knowles settled into smoother cue action and, supported by breaks of 53 and 32, took a 2-1 lead which was wiped out at the interval.

Francisco returned from the recess and surprised everyone when a red, which wobbled over a corner pocket, popped up suddenly and travelled along the top of the cushion to disappear into a side pocket. That shot inspired a break of 98 for a 3-2 lead.

When Knowles missed a shot on the green after coming back from 45 down to lead 48-45, he put the next frame in the pocket of Francisco who cleared the pink to go 4-2 ahead. Knowles' last chance in the seventh frame evaporated when he left the last red for Francisco, who, leading 61-31, put Knowles into a

Dates tangle decision

The World Professional Billiards and Snooker Association (WPBSA) are attempting to solve the tangle caused by a clash of dates between the Belgian Classic and Barry Hearn's Matchroom League in March next year (Sydney Friskin writes).

At a board meeting at Reading yesterday a decision was taken to ask Belgian television authorities if they could complete his match in the qualifying round of the Teenies UK championship at Bootle against David Roe on October 7. It is likely Foulds will be reprimanded.

half of WPBSA, said: "We feel this approach is in the best interests of snooker and therefore we are asking Belgian TV if they can accommodate." If they cannot, the Belgian Classic will have to continue without five Matchroom professionals. The remaining two, Jimmy White and Dennis Taylor, are available.

The board viewed with displeasure the failure of Geoff Foulds to complete his match in the qualifying round of the Teenies UK championship at Bootle against David Roe on October 7. It is likely Foulds will be reprimanded.

Leonard 'agrees'

Sugar Ray Leonard is reported to have signed a contract to meet Marvin Hagler in a 12-round middleweight boxing match in Las Vegas on April 6. All that is needed now is Hagler's signature, Mike Trainer, Leonard's lawyer, told The Boston Globe, and for the number of rounds to be determined. Leonard wanted no more than 12 rounds, but Hagler wanted 15, Trainer said.

Patel's move

Worcestershire's Kenyan-born all-rounder, Dipak Patel, is considering a short cut into Test cricket with New Zealand. His county confirmed yesterday that he had discussed the possibility before leaving recently on his annual coaching trip to Auckland. Patel, whose wife and child were born in New Zealand, is said to be assessing two options: taking out New Zealand citizenship or attempting to establish a residential qualification for that country.

Early farewell

The British-entered Ford RS 200, which was favourite to win the seventh Himalayan car rally, was eliminated yesterday after developing engine trouble. The driver, Sig Andersson, of Sweden, had held the lead in the first and second legs. It was the last chance for the Ford RS 200 to win a race because it has been banned from future rallies as its engine is too powerful.

Brown is out

Manchester United have suffered another setback following the loss of a 23-match unbeaten league basketball record to Leicester Riders on Tuesday. The league champions' captain, Will Brown, has broken his jaw in training and will be out for six weeks starting with today's league match at unbeaten BCP London.

Americans retain their lead

Caracas (Reuters) - Bob Lewis shot a 69, one under par, and Jay Sigal, a 70, yesterday to keep the United States retain their lead after the second round of the world amateur championship at the Lagunita Country Club.